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1. Estipona, from the sea.

2. Cathedral and Port of Malaga.

3. Cordova.

4. Malaga, from the sea.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN SPAIN: VIEWS OF PLACES WHERE IT WAS FELT.

OUR NOTE-BOOK

Rejoicing with the Queen and the Royal family in their joys, the English people all the world over may be fairly said to have united in a hearty Birthday greeting to her Majesty's grandson, Prince Albert Victor, whose Majority was celebrated with characteristic geniality by the Prince and Princess of Wales at Sandringham on Thursday. So charmingly youthful is her Royal Highness in appearance that it is difficult to realise that twenty-one years have elapsed since that memorable Friday when the "blissful bride of a blissful heir," after spending the afternoon in sledging round the frozen lake of Virginia Water and watching the Prince playing at hockey on the ice, gave birth to a son at Frogmore Lodge. Prince Albert Victor (or Prince Edward, as he is familiarly called), is credited with the possession of that admirable quality of bonhomie which has endeared the Prince and Princess of Wales to the nation, and probably made during his prolonged sea voyages with Prince George hosts of good friends, who will have joined cordially in the felicitations his Royal Highness received on the Eighth of January. Modest, frank, and unaffected, the young Prince has deservedly won golden opinions from all sorts of men; and his Royal Highness enters manhood strengthened for the battle of life with the best wishes of the realm for his welfare and happiness.

Twelfth Night was kept right merrily at the Mansion House on the 6th, when the rising generation were decidedly looked upon as the stars of the future, and the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs were the Magi, who vied with one another in doing them honour. Dissolving views, and a glorious Punch and Judy show, were provided; the band played most inspiring music, and the fun was thoroughly gleeful, innocent, and hearty. It really was a sight for gods and men to see the proud happy young mothers and fathers as they stood by with glistening eyes while their little ones, in all sorts of comical costumes, marched round the Egyptian Hall that the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress might duly appreciate their apparel and bestow the kindly word and smile that each juvenile looked for, and the numerous grand-parents among the City Fathers were not one whit less delighted. The rooms were not too hot, the lights were brilliant, the flowers fresh, and the atmosphere redolent of enjoyment.

Some of the little fancy dresses were remarkably effective, perhaps the most striking being Master Cecil Palmer, the grandchild of the Lord Mayor, who was dressed as a little white rabbit, and called himself Baby Bunting. There were "Bunnie's" tail and his ears very prominent, in white fur, as well as his warm coat; but the bright dark eyes that looked out of the intelligent little face were the familiar ones of Young England. Master Ralph Truscott, the grandson of Sir Francis Truscott, personated Prince Eugene, in the full costume of a courtier of the days of good Queen Anne; little Stella Phillips, the popular Sheriff's daughter, was dressed as a canary, in yellow plush, with a pair of wings, and a smooth, yellow head, finished off in front by a prominent beak. Her costume, down to her little yellow shoes, was perfect. The Masters Wheeler were dressed as the two young Princes in the Tower, exactly after Millais' famous picture. Miss Maud Thompson was the only Ophelia present, she looked neither mad nor melancholy. Miss Hollingsworth made a good Sophie Western, and Miss Da Costa Andrade was wonderfully got-up as the postman, or rather the postwoman, of the future. Of youthful Marquises there were many, and of patched and powdered Marchionesses not a few; while the peasant girls, flower maidens, &c., were not so numerous as on previous similar occasions.

When women are very rich they are usually supposed to indulge in every sort of luxury; but in our day there are women whose riches spur them on to activity, and they conduct their own business in a manner that compels admiration. Such a one is Miss Maud St. Pierre, a strong-minded single lady, about five-and-thirty, who has made large investments in land in the State of Tennessee. So rich is her property in minerals that she is having a line of railway constructed which will run through its very heart, and she rides about with money in her saddle-bags, paying her work-people, and looking after her affairs diligently.

The Paris *Figaro* has sustained a great loss during the last week in the death of M. Arnold Mortier, known to the world as "Un Monsieur de l'Orchestre." It will be extremely difficult to fill his place, for he was wise and witty, full of resource, and keen-eyed for everything that happened before or behind the footlights. No episode was too trivial for him to record, and in that lay the whole difference between his lively chronicles of things theatrical and the sober ones of other writers and reporters. No such blank has occurred in the *personnel* of the *Figaro* since the death of its founder, M. De Villemessant, *le grand rédacteur*, over whose tomb his staff, to quote their own expression, shed "tears of ink."

We learn with much pleasure that the Queen has been pleased to confer the Companionship of the Bath on Mr. George Scharf, F.S.A., the Director of the National Portrait Gallery, a collection which may be said to owe its importance to his good taste and critical judgment. Mr. Scharf has had, throughout his long public service, to contend against two difficulties, the one that of obtaining first-rate portraits of well-known persons, and the other that of declining second-rate portraits of uninteresting nonentities.

The young Prince of Naples, heir to the throne of Italy, had a tolerably difficult military examination to pass just before Christmas, and acquitted himself completely to the satisfaction of the Minister of War, the King's first Aide-de-Camp, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Army. The boy is an ardent collector of coins and medals, so his Royal father rewarded him by a Christmas present after his own heart, and gave him all sorts of old foreign moneys and the rarest medals that could be procured.

Sir R. Loyd-Lindsay, M.P., has lent to the present Burlington House collection a magnificent Murillo, representing the Virgin and Child in Glory, and near it hangs the well-known portrait of a lady, supposed to be Titian's daughter, by Paris Bordone. On the same wall is the portrait of the Duchess of Modena and her family, by Bernardino Licinio; and the first and last of these beautiful pictures strongly illustrate the fact that the greatest painters did not merely paint the women of their own country or generation, but those who would be recognised to all time as typical beauties. Fra Bartolommeo's Virgin, in Gallery IV., and Murillo's, and the Duchess of Modena, with the nurse behind her, like Titian's Catharine Cornaro, are ever young and ever fair. One may have met such a woman in the Park last season, or may see her next week at a ball. Time has not touched even to mellow them, their bloom is unfaded, and their eyes serene. Compared with the portraits painted by smaller men, they will be seen to possess the secret of perpetual youth.

An incident that took place a fortnight ago at Portsmouth might, in skilful hands, be worked up into an effective Christmas story. The Commander of one of her Majesty's big ships found himself in a position to give leave of absence to a large number of bluejackets, who trooped ashore merrily enough. One of them, however, hoping to escape notice, slipped aside, undressed, and turned into his berth. He was speedily discovered, and, when questioned, reluctantly acknowledged that as he had sent every penny of his pay to his aged mother, he had no money to spend, and should thankfully eat his Christmas dinner on board. He was ordered to rise, dress, and report himself to his commanding officer, which he did with fear and trembling, rapidly changed into joy when that gentleman warmly shook hands with and congratulated him, leaving in his horny palm four golden sovereigns. How happily Jack went ashore and boarded the next train for his native village may be better imagined than described.

The "spotless" tournament just concluded at the Aquarium, Westminster, gave lovers of billiards a great treat; but at least one of the players received hard measure. On Tuesday last, for instance, Mr. Joseph Bennett, ex-Champion, was twice denied a "cannon" when, as Osric would have said, it was "a hit, a most palpable hit," so palpable indeed in one case that some of the spectators cried aloud at the decision given against him. It must be very disheartening to play against both luck and unintentional injustice.

What constitutes a witch? There is the Lancashire witch, whose beauty procures her the title; and, of old, there was the poor old woman whose ugliness and perfectly hypothetical habit of riding upon a broomstick in the small hours caused her to be so called. The other day, however, there died of cold, starvation, and exposure, at the age of seventy-five, a poor woman, whose "correct name was Hatch." She is said to have been of "some-what wild appearance," to have had from the parish three shillings a week to live or die upon, to have paid one of those shillings for the rent of "a wretched hovel," where she had no fire and nothing but one sheet to cover her as she lay upon a pailasse on the ground through the bitter winter's night. So they called her "the witch of Okehampton"; poor old soul! It is to be feared that witches of that sort are by no means so rare as they ought to be in a civilised and Christian country.

Æsthetic dress is very much on the wane, if one may judge by the style of apparel that prevailed last week at the Grosvenor and Burlington House private views. Sage-green and weather-beaten orange were in the minority, or were only seen in the morning, when genuine scribblers, in spectacles and big hats, came to look at the pictures and take notes. In the afternoon, when artist-princes and their wives and the queens of comedy and song flocked to the rendezvous, they were attired in pretty black *confections*, and rich golden browns, blues, and clarets, with the daintiest little bonnets imaginable. Costly furs and rich velvets were very much the order of the day, and the former, within certain limits, were patronised by gentlemen as well as ladies.

Still harping on New-Year's gifts, to the antiquity and advance of which we referred last week, a curious passage occurs in the Lansdowne MSS. In the year 1611, Sir Francis Bacon tells Sir M. Hicks, "he has sent to his Lady and Daughters a new year's gift of carnation stockings to wear for his sake." Nowadays these articles, if not always of such a brilliant colour as carnation, are worn for their own sakes.

On the first day of this New Year appeared a notice which shows that the Master of the Horse (the Duke of Westminster) has turned over a new leaf and at the same time taken, as it were, a step backwards. He has reduced the number of Queen's Plates or Royal Plates (dating, no doubt, from Charles II. or an earlier reign, but with no sort of consecutive record earlier than Queen Anne) to be run for in England from fifteen to ten (one fewer than they were in 1727); but of course the value of each has been increased, so that, till further notice, the Plate at Newmarket will be worth £500; at York, Richmond (Yorks), Liverpool, Lichfield, Bath, Stockbridge, Ascot, Lewes, and Winchester or Salisbury (in alternate years), £300. The next step will probably be to abolish them altogether (for they are not much needed), or to lump the guineas still further together into no more than one or two Plates (say, one at Newmarket and one at York, as the representatives of the Southern and Northern Turf respectively). The competitors, moreover, are for

the future to be "horses or mares bred in Great Britain or Ireland"; which is a very reasonable measure, since, whatever may be said of our Royal Plates, they were certainly not meant to encourage horses "bred abroad," like the celebrated Dutch Skater and others. On the other hand, it seems a little hard that "no horse" is "to be allowed to win more than two of the Plates in any one year." Shades of Fisherman and Caller On! The more likely the Plates are made to bring out good horses, the less possible it is to be for any one horse to establish an indisputable superiority! Why, it might as well be enacted that no horse that has won the Two Thousand and the Derby be allowed to win the Grand Prix and the St. Leger. No doubt the word "win" leaves it open to any high-minded gentleman or lady, who boasts the possession of "the best horse over a distance" in all England, to prove the boast to be good by "running" and "beating" without "winning"; but black swans are multitudinous compared with gentlemen or ladies so high-minded.

That Arabi was a persuasive Oriental we found out when he collected his large army of followers in Egypt. But when this pugnacious Pasha was relegated to Ceylon, no one would have suspected that his eloquence would have been devoted to peace-making. And yet, at a public meeting in connection with the promotion of a Mohammedan boys' school, he was the means of reconciling the three factions into which the religious community in Ceylon had for a long time been divided. Arabi had taken great interest in the school—probably he had not much to amuse him on the island—and he was selected to make the inauguration speech. So successful was the very touching discourse that, immediately after he sat down, the leaders of the rival factions rose in the presence of the company, and could not refrain from embracing each other. Arabi might be a useful lecturer at many a metropolitan vestry meeting.

Good-fellowship is the primary cause of the success of many a club, society, and institution. Several associations formed for social or technical purposes have been the means of founding excellent charities and useful communities. Now, although the Volunteers, our city soldiers, as they have been called, have in many ways proved their capacity and efficiency, they have up to the present been forgetful of other advantages that such a vast and widespread body could effect. To the credit, then, of Colonel Defries, of the Honourable Artillery Company, and Captain Williams, of Kent, be it said that they propose to establish an Orphanage for the Children of Volunteers. Happily, the majority of our amateur Army have remunerative occupations or private means; but it will be an additional inducement to the mechanic or clerk to join the force if he knows that by so doing he is making some sort of provision for his young progeny. His Grace the Duke of Portland, Lord Ranelagh, Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, Lord Headly, and many other influential noblemen and gentlemen have promised to support the scheme.

Nearly every large European city has a special quarter if not set aside for, at least inhabited by their own choice of Jews. Berlin has its Juden quartier, Frankfurt its Judengasse, London its Whitechapel, and Rome its Ghetto. This last, the most ancient of all, will soon have disappeared. Its occupiers are descended in a direct line from the Hebrew captives who were brought from Jerusalem by Titus, and bound to his chariot. Although the Ghetto was reduced to a rubbish heap in 1848, the Jews have lingered amongst its ruins, and made themselves contented in the dilapidated tenements ever since, and even now cling, to the very moment of demolition, to the spot where their ancestors found shelter. But before the site is covered with the proposed new Italian villas, a strange ceremony has taken place. It is proverbially difficult to convert a Jew; but the Rev. O. Ben Oliei, under the auspices of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel amongst the Jews, has baptised two Hebrews, and admitted them into the English Church. The ceremony took place at Rome, in the presence of many of the Protestant clergy, at the very moment, maybe, when co-religionists of the converts were being forced from the place to which they had become so deeply attached from the ancient traditions of their race.

The Derby at Epsom is no longer the most valuable prize for which English race-horses are in the habit of competing; the Grand Prix de Paris (notwithstanding the absence of the "objet d'art" which Napoleon III. used to give) nearly always beats every English prize in pecuniary value (except, of course, the newly established and never yet decided Eclipse Stakes of 10,000 sovs., to be run for in 1886). It is satisfactory, therefore, to know that the Municipality of Paris, in spite of strenuous opposition, have by a majority of 48 to 22 voted for this year the subsidy of 50,000f. (besides 16,000f. given to other races), without which, according to the conditions, there would be no race. As the increase of the octroi alone more than covers the outlay, it would be almost suicidal to cut off the subsidy. Still, it is not pleasant to be at the mercy of a municipality's whims and fancies; and the old English fashion, observed in the Derby, the St. Leger, and other great races, of "running for one another's money" seems to be the more satisfactory, and certainly the more sportsman-like; though there is apparently a growing inclination even in this country to run for "public money."

"English as she is spoke" by foreigners is always amusing; and also "as she is wrote." Here is a Japanese specimen, borrowed from Mr. Faulds' "Nine Years in Nipon," lately published: "Notice. Shoe manufacturer. Design at any choice. The undersigned being engaged long and succeeded with their capacity at shoe factory of Isekats, in Tokio; it is now established in my liability at undermentioned lot all furnishment will be attended in moderate term with good quality. An order is acceptable, in receive a post, being called upon the measure, and it will be forwarded in furnish. U. Inoya." This is worthy of notice from examiners in public competitions: "parse and explain."

THE MAGAZINES.

The commencement of the New Year is distinguished among other things by a great increase of interest in Mr. Payn's novel in the *Cornhill Magazine*. "Vortigern and Rowena" is performed and condemned, and the hitherto rather languid interest of the plot is quickened by the introduction of pretty actresses, and a very lively demonstration of jealousy on the part of the affianced bride of the unlucky fabricator. Mr. Furniss's illustrations are excellent. "Rainbow Gold," the new serial, by D. Christie Murray, is very clever, but somehow fails to interest us deeply, notwithstanding the strength of the situations. A delightful paper, "Charles Dickens at Home," by one of his daughters, confirms, without materially modifying, the impression hitherto generally entertained of his geniality in his own circle, notwithstanding a somewhat despotic will and an insistence on method and order not often found in writers of imaginative genius. "Reminiscences of Foo-Chow" lets us into the interiors of the dwellings of wealthy Chinese merchants, with their luxury and politeness, and their *cuisine* of ducks' tongues, skins of pig's mouth, and dragons' whiskers.

Macmillan gives a very favourable account of the success which has attended the removal of some of the unfortunate Highland crofters to the north-west of Canada, and commences a new novel, "A Millionaire's Cousin," remarkable for a vivid sketch of persons and things at Algiers. Mr. J. Cotter Morison comes down with tremendous vigour upon the Jacobin reign of terror in France, without seeking to make a fair distribution of the responsibility between the Terrorists and those whose misdoings had made them possible. Mr. Morison will not let us say inevitable. Mr. Traill's "Great Backstairs Scandal" is a humorous little story much in the manner of Thackeray, but with an individuality of its own.

"Calvados" and "Shakespeare's County" are the subjects of pleasant papers by Miss Mather and Miss Rose Kingsley, yielding many pretty illustrations to the *English Illustrated Magazine*. "That Terrible Man" is concluded with due impressiveness, and Mr. Wilkie Collins' "Girl at the Gate" gives symptoms of the revival of his old power. The "Dramatic Outlook," by Mr. H. Jones, is illustrated with admirable sketches of the leading performers of the day in their favourite parts. Mr. Jones thinks that at present "the success or failure of any piece at any theatre is to all human judgment a complete lottery," and that no good will be done until the public have been brought to accept some recognised standard of taste.

Longman's Magazine commences a new fiction by Mr. William Black, "White Heather," which promises very well, and concludes the excellent story of "Sir Jocelyn's Cap."

A very good number of *Blackwood* opens with another specimen of the peculiar class of supernatural fiction which Mrs. Oliphant has made her own, a style only at the command of a writer who believes in at least the possibility of her own story. The idea of "The Portrait" is the inspiration of a person possessed by a supernatural influence driving him on to remedy a wrong of which he himself is wholly unaware. It is scarcely so successful as previous performances of the same nature: the old man is too inconsistent, and the young man too weak to greatly interest us; the supernatural element is not sufficiently impressive; and too much is left obscure in the story. It is nevertheless charmingly written, and may be read with much pleasure. Another very good but widely different tale is from the Chinese, skilfully adapted by an eminent scholar in that language. "Within his Danger," the story in question, is remarkable, not only from the vivid local colouring and the interest of the plot, but also from the successful manner in which very serious incidents are blended with a constant under-current of humour. It is highly probable that little of this is perceptible in the original, and that the drollery arises in large measure from the quaintness with which the frankest recognition of our common humanity cannot prevent our investing Celestials. "A Quartette of Italian Novelists" sets forth the characteristics of modern Italian fiction in a very agreeable style by examples judiciously selected from Farina, Verga, the Marchesa Colombi, and Matilda Serao. "The Waters of Hercules" grows more entertaining with every successive instalment; and a genial memoir of Sir Alexander Grant puts his high claims to respectful remembrance in the most advantageous light possible.

The tendency of democracies to intrust absolute power to a strong man is indisputable, and affords some justification for the apprehensions of "Caesarism" which Earl Cowper expresses in the *Nineteenth Century*. It may be urged, however, that precedents from ancient commonwealths are of doubtful application to communities possessed of the modern institution of a free press, by which the people have hitherto unknown facilities for controlling their leader, or, in case of need, removing him. Herr Arminius Vambéry discusses the probability of Russia's ultimately conquering India with an evident leaning to the affirmative; he takes, however, no account of the political, financial, and other internal difficulties which might easily paralyse Russia's action, let the military situation be ever so favourable. Mr. Rae's history of the *Times* on occasion of its centenary is a very interesting story, but not a very novel one. Some manuscript notes by Charles Lamb in his copy of Wither's poems gives Mr. Swinburne an opportunity for a commentary out of all proportion to the text. Mr. Salt, an Eton master, confesses, on behalf of self and fellows, that, while working very hard themselves, they teach the boys under them next to nothing, and that there is no prospect of any thorough reform unless public opinion take up the question very seriously. Sir Spencer Robinson, discussing the Navy and the Admiralty, makes the excellent suggestion that the naval Lords should be obliged to attest in writing their belief in the adequacy of the estimates proposed by them.

The *Fortnightly Review* is more varied than usual, but less interesting. The anonymous writer on "the revolution of 1884" merely expresses a truism when he says that the legislation of the future will have a Socialistic tinge; he might have added that this will be equally the case whichever political party is in power. Mr. Courtney continues to damage the excellent cause of minority representation by linking it with a scheme of voting which the British elector will never be persuaded to adopt. The "candid Conservative," whose style is remarkably like Mr. Traill's, overlooks one strong element in the Conservative calculations, the probability of moderate Liberals in one-member constituencies, unable to get their principles and preferences attended to by their own party, drifting into the Conservative ranks. Mr. Stephen Williamson writes cheerfully of the prospects of British commerce and agriculture; but we hope nobody will agree with him when he treats the contingency of an interruption of the food supply of the country by a foreign war too remote for practical politics. Baron Rothschild is also sanguine on the "expansion of art"; while, on the other hand, Persia and the turf would seem to be in an equally unsatisfactory condition, according to the respective testimony of M. Valentine Chirol and Earl Cadogan. M. E. B. De Fonblanque makes short work of the pretensions of Middle Caroline Bauer to be regarded as an injured victim of the late King of the Belgians. Mr. Burnand's view of the stage as a profession cannot be considered encouraging.

Sir Arthur Hobhouse's exposition of the affairs of the City Companies in the *Contemporary Review* is valuable, but dry. The gist of it is that less can be fairly extracted from the Companies than ardent municipal reformers hoped, but that they are still squeezable, and worth squeezing. In treating of the German colonial movement, Baron Von der Brüggen, though professedly the founder of the "German Colonial Union," confines himself to safe generalities. There are, besides, a very sensible article on the doubtful prospects but obvious policy of the Evangelical party in the Church; an exciting narrative of a Nihilist's escape from Siberia; and an agreeable essay on Dr. Johnson by the successful author of "Obiter Dicta."

The *National Review* has an unusual number of articles, but for the most part of a very amateurish description, as though the editor had signalled the commencement of the New Year by a general jail-delivery. "Della Crusca and Anna Matilda" is the most interesting contribution.

It is pleasing to remark for how large a portion of their contents the American magazines are indebted to the old country. *Harper* for this month is almost half English, with its admirably written and illustrated account of Wickliffe, by Professor A. W. Ward; and a no less excellent description of the Isle of Purbeck, intimately connected with Mr. Seymour Haden's paper on the revival of mezzotint engraving, the illustrations being taken from this picturesque corner of Dorsetshire. An illustrated paper on Florida is equally good, and more novel to English readers; and Mrs. Gustafson's pretty poem is accompanied by very pretty designs. The *Century*, not altogether so good a number as usual, has two very interesting articles connected more or less with the Civil War. Mr. G. W. Cable, already distinguished as the first Southern writer to admit the justice of the cause of the North, pleads logically and eloquently for perfect justice in dealings between White and Black; and Admiral Walke contributes a graphic and well-illustrated narrative of the very gallant naval operations by which the Mississippi was cleared down as far as Memphis. Mr. Howell's "Silas Lapham" continues a good story, and Ewart Ingersoll's "Making of a Museum" is rich in instruction and illustration. The best contributions to the *Atlantic Monthly* are Mr. Craddock's Tennesseean story, "The Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains," and Miss O'Meara's reminiscences of Madame Mohl's salon.

The *Magazine of Art* begins the new year with a tinted portrait of Lady Maria Waldegrave, after the drawing by John Downman, A.R.A., in the British Museum; an illustrated article describing the home of Mr. Pettie, R.A., at Hampstead; a paper on the French stage, with two good woodcuts of Coquelin in character; "Pompeii in Black and White"; "Romance of Art"; a paper on "Oriental Brasswork"; "A Round in France"; an article on the American artist, Elihu Vedder; a review of Mr. W. J. Linton's works on wood engraving; and the usual art notes for the month. The illustrations—over thirty in number—are all well done, and make this New-Year's number an excellent shilling's-worth. We think, however—apropos of the article on Mr. Pettie's home—that these dry descriptions of the houses and furniture of eminent artists are getting just a little tiresome.

The *Art Journal* for January is the first number of a new series. The price is now reduced to eightpence, and we trust this time-honoured journal is starting on a new and prosperous lease of continued usefulness. It must now be getting on for fifty years since this earliest organ of the artistic profession commenced its career, under the name of "The Art Union." It was then, we think, published at a shilling; and the proprietors have now done wisely in reducing the price from half-a-crown, which was too much in these days of cheap literature. The present number has for frontispiece a capital etching, by C. O. Murray, of "The Wedding Morning," after the picture by Henry Mosler; an illustrated article, "The Mask of Silence," descriptive of landscape in winter; "Some late additions to the National Gallery," illustrated; a cleverly illustrated paper on the Russian painter, Vereschagin; a description of Niagara, with a view by H.R.H. the Princess Louise; "The Early Madonnas of Raphael," by Mr. Henry Wallis; other short articles, reviews, and art notes, the whole making up a number of great interest and variety.

It is no doubt a token of the success of Girton College that "A Girton Girl" should be taken as the subject of Mrs. Edwards' novel in *Temple Bar*. The scene, however, is so far laid not at Girton but in Guernsey. The introduction is lively, and the novel promises well, as does another new serial, Mrs. Riddell's "Mitre Court." There are also several good short stories, and Charles Reade's "Perilous Secret" grows most interesting. But the gem of the number is the memorial of Mark Pattison, by a late undergraduate of Lincoln College, bringing out by vivid touches the essential goodness of heart of one regarded by many as a mere incarnation of intellect.

Belgravia continues "Miss Cadogna," and commences "A Strange Voyage," by W. Clark Russell, which promises to be as exciting as any of his former nautical masterpieces. Cecil Power's "Babylon" manifests humour, but is almost a philological exercise, with its dialect of American and English clowns in alternate chapters. The ubiquitous Miss Gordon Cumming has got to Peking, and describes the Summer Palace and its environs very graphically.

The scene of Miss O'Hanlon's "Unforeseen," the new leading serial fiction in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, is laid in Canada, an unwonted locality for English fiction. The best of the other contributions are Miss E. M. Clerke's excellent account of Giusti, the Burns of Italy, and Mr. Swin's memoir of Jouffroy, by the admission of his rival Fulton, the real inventor of the steam-boat, but whose name is seldom associated with his invention, from which he derived no pecuniary benefit.

London Society has so far altered its plan as to discard serial stories for short tales. It has also a short memoir of Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A.; and a paper on the Gipsies, by their friend and benefactor, Mr. George Smith, of Coalville.

The principal serials of the enterprising firm of Messrs. Cassell, Petter, Galpin, and Co., besides *The Magazine of Art*, noticed above, are—Cassell's *Magazine*, *The Quiver* (the Golden Centre being *The Quiver Annual*), Cassell's *Saturday Journal*, *Greater London*, *Royal Shakspeare*, *Familiar Wild Flowers*, *Book of Health*, *Old and New London*, *Illustrated Universal History*, *Popular Gardening*, *Picturesque Europe*, *Picturesque America*, the *Life and Words of Christ*, by the Rev. Cunningham Geikie; *Little Folks' Magazine*, and the first part of their revised edition of Cassell's *Popular Educator*.

Among Fashion Books received are—*The Season*, Le Follet, *Ladies' Treasury*, *Ladies' Gazette of Fashion*, *World of Fashion*, *Moniteur de la Mode*, and *Myra's Journal of Dress*.

We have also to acknowledge *London Society*, *The Argosy*, the *Month*, *Good Words*, the *Army and Navy Magazine*, *Household Words*, St. Nicholas, the *Red Dragon*, *Eastward Ho!* the *Antiquarian*, *Chambers's Journal*, *All the Year Round*, *Merry England*, *Irish Monthly*, *Leisure Hour*, *Book Lore*, *United Service Magazine*, *Forest's Sporting Notes and Sketches*, *Harper's Young People*, the *Illustrated Science Monthly*, *Theatre*, *Aunt Judy's Magazine*, and the *Rosebud*.

THE CHURCH.

Dr. Jackson, Bishop of London, died suddenly on Tuesday morning from heart disease, at Fulham Palace, in his seventy-fourth year. A Portrait of the Bishop is given in this Number.

At the Chapel Royal, Savoy, the Rev. C. H. Middleton Wake will preach at the morning service to-morrow (the 11th inst.), and the Rev. W. M. Sinclair in the evening.

The living of Shifnal, Shropshire, valued at £420 a year, has been bestowed upon the Rev. George Wingate, Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield.

Lord Plunket was installed in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on the 1st inst., as Archbishop of Dublin, and subsequently was installed as Dean of the Cathedral.

The Rev. Canon Westcott, during the month of residence at Westminster, will continue his lectures on the Revised Version of the New Testament in the choir of the Abbey on Wednesdays, at 3.45 p.m.

Mr. Francis H. Jeane, of the Inner Temple, barrister-at-law, has been appointed to the post of Chancellor of the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol by the Bishop, in the room of Mr. Monk, M.P., who has resigned.

The Rev. F. B. Proctor, one of the assistant masters in King's College School, has been appointed by the Rector of Chipping Barnet to the charge of the new temporary Church of St. Mark, in the same district, which is to be opened by the Bishop of St. Albans on the 13th inst.

At a meeting of clergy and laity at Winchester on Monday—the Bishop presiding, and being supported, among others, by the Earl of Northbrook and Viscount Baring—it was decided to provide a memorial of the late Archdeacon Jacob in the shape of a restoration of the Cathedral reredos, at an estimated cost of £4000.

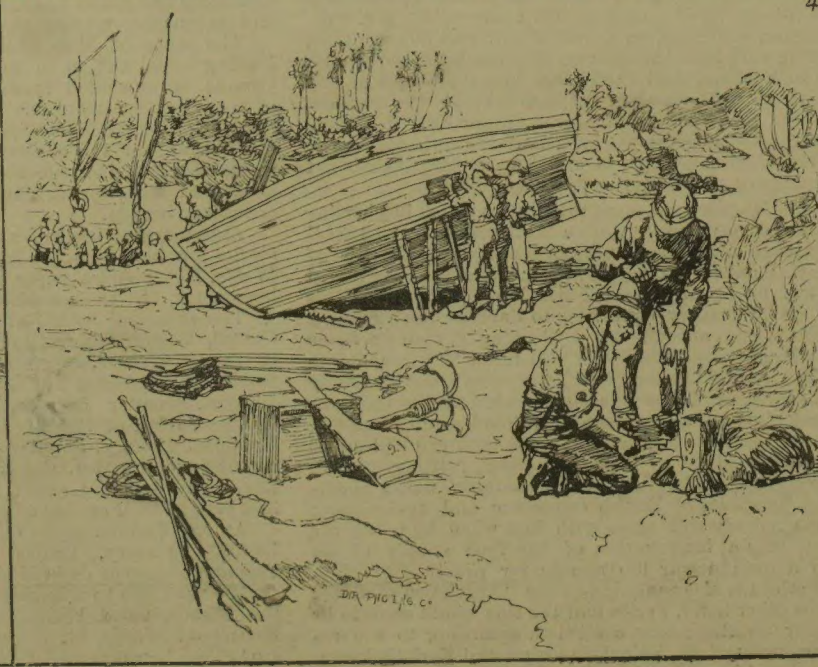
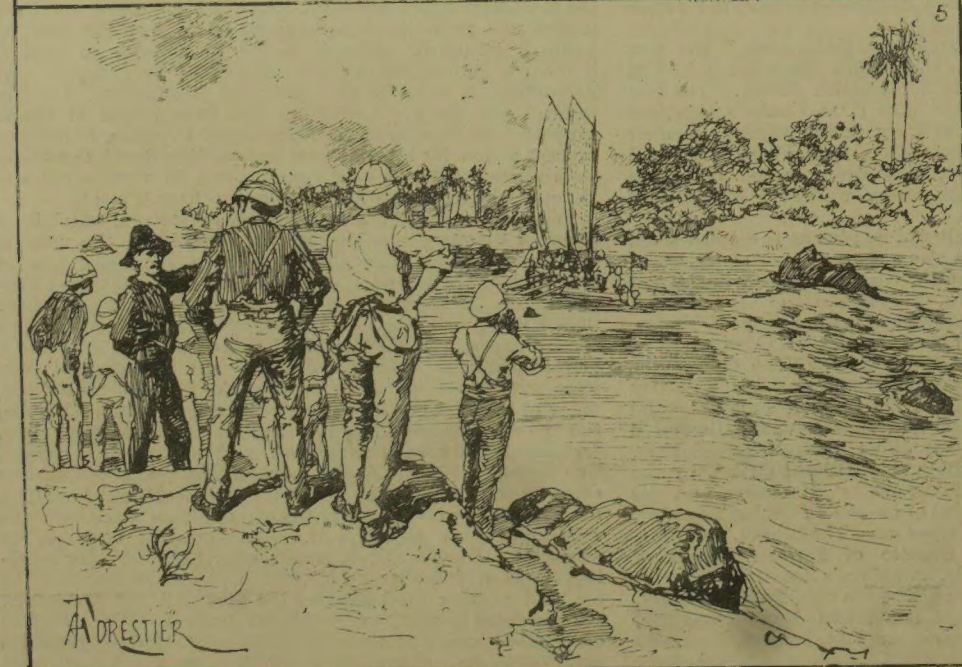
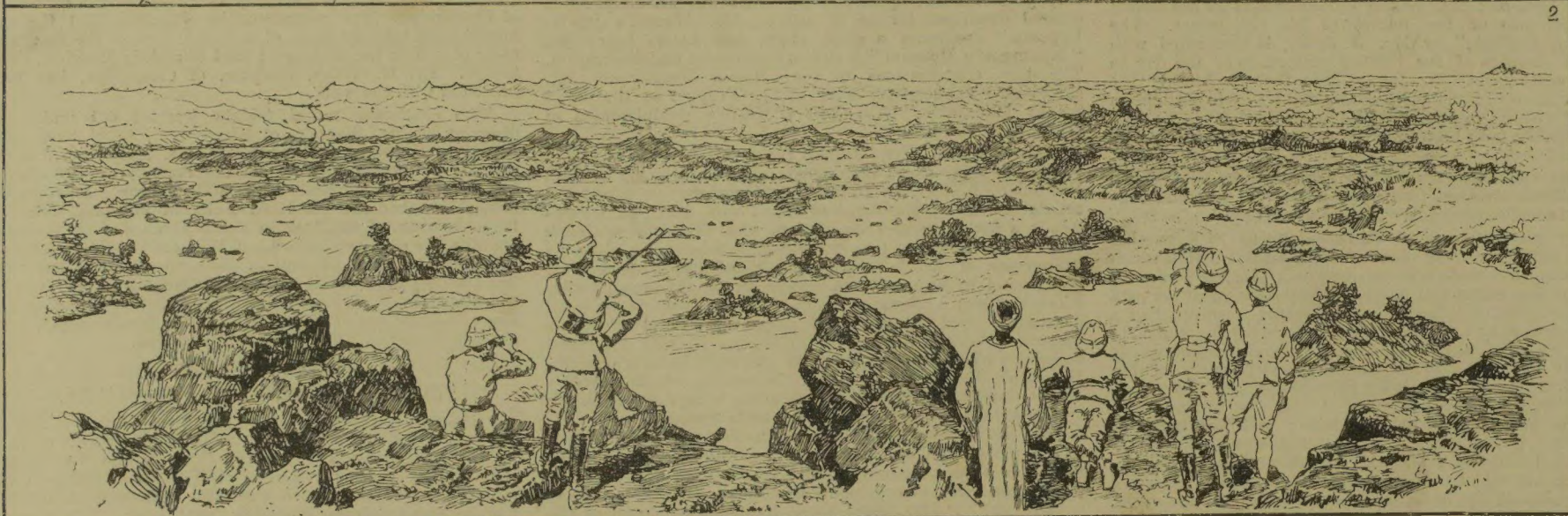
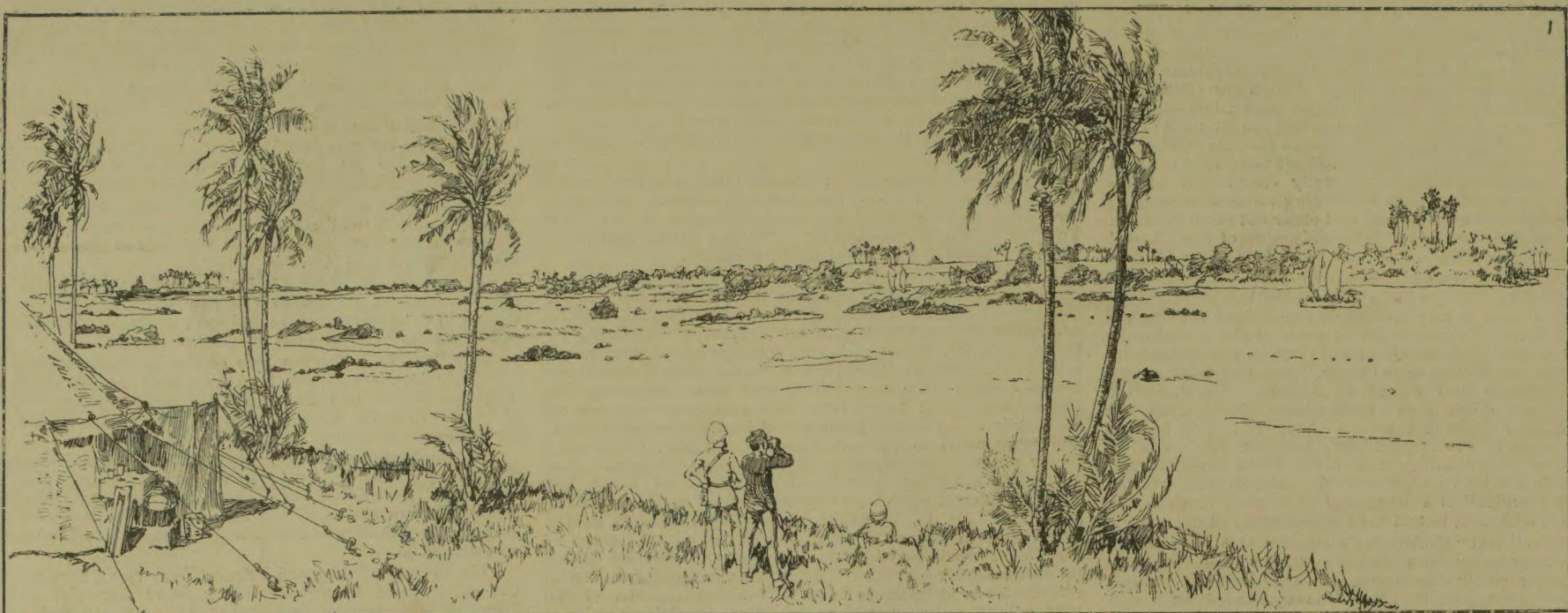
The Prince of Wales and Prince Albert Victor have headed the subscription to provide a permanent memorial to Dr. Paget, F.R.S., Regius Professor of Physic in the University of Cambridge. The committee have decided that the memorial shall take the form of a marble bust of the Professor, to be placed in the interior of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. Mr. H. Wiles, sculptor, of Cambridge, has been intrusted with the work.

Two handsome mural tablets (carried out under the direction of Mr. Sinclair, of King-street, Soho) have been placed in the old parish Church of St. Marylebone, to the memory of several members of the Portland family who lie buried in the family vault beneath the church. Amongst the names inscribed are the third Duke of Portland, who was Prime Minister of England in the beginning of the century; the Marquis of Titchfield; Lord William Charles Cavendish Bentinck, Governor-General of India from 1827 to 1835; the last Duchess of Portland; and Lord George Frederick Cavendish Bentinck, well known in racing circles. This church is now called, by Act of Parliament, "The Parish Chapel," and the Rev. Grant E. Thomas is the Incumbent.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN SPAIN.

The series of earthquakes that began on Christmas Day in some parts of Southern Spain, from the south-eastern coast, at Malaga, extending northward to Cordova and westward to Cadiz, eighty or ninety miles in each direction, north-west to Seville, and north-east to Granada, continued at intervals with lessening violence during the next week. The principal towns and cities, except Malaga, have not suffered much damage, but in the villages and country places many hundred lives have been lost, and there is great destruction of property. It seems to have been worst in the mountainous districts near the borders of the provinces of Granada and Malaga, where the shocks of earthquake were repeated on the nights of Dec. 25, 26, and 27, and so late as New-Year's Day. The shaky old houses and churches which fell are reported by the local authorities to have buried hundreds of bodies under the ruins at Alhama, Albuñuela, Areñes, Periana, and Torrox; and from ten to sixty bodies were buried in many villages. The surviving inhabitants were driven to encamp in the fields, and have suffered greatly from cold and hunger. Alhama, situated on the north slope of the Sierra Tejeda, halfway between Malaga and Granada, is the town which has been visited most severely. On Dec. 24 it contained about 12,000 inhabitants, but the number has shrunk to 8000, from deaths and flight. Of the 1757 houses, not 200 can be repaired. All the rest have either fallen or are in so shattered a condition that they must be pulled down. All the five churches, the fine casino or club, and the Townhall are destroyed, and it may be said that the town is reduced to one great heap of ruins, from which rises an intolerable stench from the number of bodies still lying beneath it. Several thousand people are bivouacked in the open air, and are homeless and shelterless; the rest of the inhabitants who escaped with their lives have fled. Nearly all who remain are short of food, and without any of the necessities of life, and their only hope of getting a supply even of bread rests upon the efforts of Government or the charity of the neighbouring towns. More than three hundred dead have been drawn from beneath the ruins, but it is believed that a much larger number are still lying beneath the masses of fallen masonry. Among the farmhouses lying around the town the loss amounts to eighty killed and two hundred wounded. Alhama is the place most in need of immediate aid to relieve the distress of the people; and Albuñuela, a town of two thousand inhabitants, has also suffered extremely. The King and Government of Spain, supported by the vote of the Chamber of Deputies, have taken prompt action for this purpose, and public subscriptions have been opened both in that country and in various cities of Europe, where Spanish Ambassadors or Consuls reside.

The large commercial seaport city of Malaga, which has a hundred thousand inhabitants, was terrified on the night of Christmas Day by three alarming shocks, the first at nine in the evening, the second at eleven o'clock, and the third at half-past two in the morning. Many thousands of people fled from their houses, and ran into the streets, endeavouring to find shelter and safety for the night. All the cabs, omnibuses, private carriages, railway carriages, vans, and covered carts were put into requisition, and whole families passed the night in them; while other people encamped on the Alameda, the public squares, the bed of the Guadalmedina river, fortunately dry at this season, and other open spaces. The actual loss of life in the town of Malaga is fortunately confined to four persons—one lady, who was killed by a falling tile; another, who died from fright; one man and a boy, who were killed by a falling wall. The wounded, however, are numerous. The damage to houses, churches, and other buildings has been estimated at £120,000. A View of Malaga from the sea, and another View showing the port and the Cathedral, are presented in this Number of our Journal. We also give one of Estepona, a place on the south coast, thirty-eight miles east of Gibraltar, which felt the earthquake in a less degree; and one of the city of Cordova, where great panic was occasioned by this terrific visitation. It was felt likewise in the city of Granada, and one of the towers of the Alhambra is somewhat injured.



1. Entrance to the Hannek Cataract: View from Koboddy.
4. Repairing a Whale-Boat in the Hannek Cataract.

2. The Dahn-el-Hajar: View from the Rock of Abou Seir.
5. A Dangerous Part of the Hannek Cataract.

3. Exit of the Hannek Cataract: View from Abou Tassara.

THE NILE EXPEDITION: SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. MELTON PRIOR.



PRINCE HENRY OF BATTENBERG.



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS BEATRICE.

APPROACHING MARRIAGE OF PRINCESS BEATRICE.

The domestic happiness of all the members of our Royal family is felt by all classes of the English people to be even more intimately a matter of personal concern, such as we cherish for esteemed friends, than an important national affair. The youngest daughter of our beloved Queen has set an example, remaining hitherto unmarried and devoting herself with affectionate constancy to the assistance and comfort of her widowed mother, while her brothers and sisters, one after another, happily formed new family connections, and two of them, the lamented Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse, and Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, have been removed by death from the Royal circle, to the grief of her Majesty and of all the Queen's subjects. Princess Beatrice has for some years past been the close companion of her Majesty at Windsor, Osborne, and Balmoral; she has, nevertheless, occasionally appeared in public to take part in gracious works of charity and benevolence; and her taste and talents as an amateur artist, more especially in painting floral designs, have been shown in a Birthday Album

and other illustrated publications. It was announced last week, after the meeting of the Privy Council at Osborne, that the Queen gave a conditional sanction to the betrothal of Princess Beatrice to Prince Henry of Battenberg, the condition being that the Prince and Princess reside in England after their marriage, and in close proximity to her Majesty.

Prince Henry of Battenberg, third son of Prince Alexander of Hesse, is the younger brother of Prince Louis of Battenberg, an officer in the British Navy, who is married to the Queen's grand-daughter, Princess Victoria of Hesse; and another of his brothers is Prince Alexander, who has been appointed ruler of Bulgaria. Prince Henry is cousin to the reigning Grand Duke of Hesse. He was born on Oct. 5, 1858, and is thus a year and a half younger than Princess Beatrice, who was born on April 14, 1857. The Princes of Battenberg take their title from a town of that name, containing about a thousand population, in the Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt. Prince Henry is a favourite member of Berlin Court society, and has been for the last two years Lieutenant in the Guards Corps, the crack Prussian cavalry regiment, to which his elder brother, the Prince of Bulgaria, is still attached as Major-General.

A fortnight ago, Prince Henry arrived on a visit to his brother, Prince Louis, at Kent House, Cowes. Since that time he has taken drives almost daily with the Queen and Princess Beatrice in the vicinity of Osborne, and has also dined with her Majesty and her Royal Highness on several occasions. On Sunday week Prince Henry attended Divine service with the Queen and Princess at Whippingham church. It is also worth noting that the Dean of Windsor paid a visit to her Majesty at Osborne.

Our Portrait of her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice is from a photograph by Mr. A. Bassano; and that of her future husband from one by Theodor Prumm, of Berlin.

Mr. W. L. Jackson, M.P., some time ago offered £100 in prizes for essays on two subjects relating to friendly societies. One subject was How to Remedy the Inequalities of the Levies, and the other The Defects of Friendly Societies and How to Remedy Them. The first prizes have been awarded by the adjudicators to Mr. James Borthwick, Portobello, and Mr. Charles Cowell, of Leeds. There were sixty-four competitors, amongst whom were several clergymen.



THE NILE EXPEDITION: INSPECTION OF THE SECOND DETACHMENT OF THE GUARDS' CAMEL CORPS AT DONGOLA.
SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. MELTON PRIOR.

BIRTH.

On the 1st inst., at Folkestone, Lady Alice Newton, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On Sept. 15, 1881, at St. Phillip's Church, Sydney, N.S.W., by the Rev. W. A. Charlton, Arthur, eldest son of R. S. G. Macdonald, Bainagowan, Rockhampton, Queensland, to Edith, fifth daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel F. B. Russell, formerly of H.M. 25th Regiment.

DEATH.

On the 3rd inst., at Eltham Park, Kent, Thomas Jackson, Esq., aged 76 years.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is Five Shillings for each announcement.

MONTE CARLO.—MUSICAL SEASON (CONCERTS, REPRESENTATIONS).

In addition to the usual Concerts, directed by Monsieur Romeo Accursi, the Société des Bains de Mer de Monaco has authorised M. Pasdeloup to arrange a Series of Extraordinary Grand Musical Entertainments (Concerts, Representations) this Winter.

The services of the following distinguished Artists have been already retained:—

Mesdames Kreuss,	Messieurs Faure,
" Devries,	" Vergnet,
" Salla,	" Capoul,
" Donadio,	" Borkstein,
" Frank-Duvernoy,	" Couturier,
" Belloc,	" Villaret,
" Simonet,	" &c.

Added to which the celebrated Instrumentalists will appear:

VIOLINISTS:

Mons. Sivori, Mons. Marsik, Miss N. Carpenter, American artiste, 1st Conservatoire Prize, 1883.

PIANISTS: Mons. Planté, Mons. Th. Ritter, Madame Essipoff.

HARPISST: Mons. Hasseimans.

These Extraordinary Representations will be given each Wednesday and Saturday, commencing the end of January and terminating the middle of March. The Classical Concerts every Thursday.

The GRAND INTERNATIONAL CONCOURS will take place in the following order:—

Saturday, Jan. 10: Grande Poule d'Essai. A Purse of 2000f. added to a Poule of 100f. each.
Tuesday, Jan. 13: Prix d'Ouverture. A Purse of 3000f. added to 100f. entrance.
Friday, Jan. 16, and Saturday, Jan. 17: Grand Prix du Casino. An object of Art and 500f. added to 200f. entrance.
Monday, Jan. 19: Prix de Monte Carlo. Grand Free Handicap. A Purse of 5000f. added to 100f. entrance.
Thursday, Jan. 22: Prix de Consolation. An object of Art and 1000f.

BI-WEEKLY MATCHES FOR PRIZES.

Jan. 24: Prix de Saint-Quentin. An object of Art, added to a Poule of 50f.
Jan. 27: Prix Yeo. A Purse of 500f., added to a Poule of 50f.
Jan. 31: Prix Saint Trivier. An object of Art, with Poule of 50f.
Feb. 3: Prix Robert. A Purse of 500f. and a Poule of 50f.
Feb. 6: Prix Hopwood. An object of Art and a Poule of 50f.
Feb. 10: Prix Lafont. A Purse of 500f. and a Poule of 50f.
Feb. 12: Prix Esterhazy. An object of Art and a Poule of 50f.
Feb. 16: Prix du Comité. A Purse of 500f. and a Poule of 50f.
Feb. 21: Prix Cammer. An object of Art and a Poule of 50f.
Feb. 24: Prix Brémont. A Purse of 500f. and a Poule of 50f.
Feb. 28: Prix Dori. An object of Art and a Poule of 50f.
Mar. 3: Prix de Mars. A Purse of 500f. and a Poule of 50f.
Mar. 7: Prix Patton. An object of Art and a Poule of 50f.
Mar. 10: Prix W. Call. A Purse of 500f., added to a Poule of 50f.

GRAND CLOSING PRIZES.

March 12 and 13: Grand Prix de Clôture. A Purse of 4000f. added to 100f. entrance; Second Prize, 1000f.; Third Prize, 500f.; Fourth, 200f.
A. BLONDIN, Secretary.

NEWS FROM NICE.—The weather is really splendid, the temperature ranging from 60 deg. to 65 deg. in the shade. The sun shines almost perpetually, and its warm rays makes life enjoyable to all, and more especially to those who have by illness or otherwise sought its influence.

There has been an almost entire absence of rain for several months, but this has not interfered with the sanitary arrangements of the city, as its streets and roads are daily watered from the main aqueduct of the Vesubie, which is also used for flushing the drains, which are, in addition, cleansed or disinfected by purifying chemical compounds.

The streets were never so clean and tidy, and the average mortality of the city is less than many fashionable towns in England.

Four resident English medical men are in practice here, and would be willing to communicate with any intending visitors desirous of satisfying their nervous fears as to the healthfulness of the town by addressing Doctors West, Sturge, Wakefield, or Waters, or Mr. Nicholls, the English qualified chemist here. In future, there will be an authorised tribunal for this purpose, as a hygienic society of medical men (French, English, and others) is now in course of formation.

The "Promenade of the Promenade des Anglais is complete, and forms one of the finest drives in the Riviera. The police force has been reorganised.

The Italian Theatre, a very handsome building, has been reconstructed and enlarged, and a grand ball of inauguration will be given in February.

The Casino Theatre is giving its entertainments; and the Théâtre des Français, of which Mr. Cortis is the able Director, has an excellent Troupe de Comédie, as also some star articles for the Opéra Comique.

The Jetty Promenade is, they say, to be immediately rebuilt. The Races will take place there. The renowned Carnival will surpass all others, and the Regattas will form an important part of the attractions, particulars of which anon.

The visitors are daily arriving in increased numbers to this bright and sunny land.

THE JAPANESE VILLAGE.

Erected and peopled exclusively by NATIVES OF JAPAN. ALBERT-GATE, HYDE PARK, OPEN DAILY from Eleven a.m. to Ten p.m. under the distinguished Patronage of her Royal Highness PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, her Royal Highness PRINCESS LOUISE, MARQUESS OF LORENE, &c. SKILLED JAPANESE ARTISANS AND WORKERS (Male and Female) will illustrate the MANNERS, CUSTOMS, and ART-INDUSTRIES of their Country, attired in their National and Picturesque Costumes.

Magnificently Decorated and Illuminated BUDDHIST TEMPLE.

FIVE O'CLOCK TEA in the Japanese Tea-House.

JAPANESE MUSICAL and other ENTERTAINMENTS.

EVERY-DAY LIFE as in JAPAN. MILITARY BAND.

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WEDNESDAYS, Half-a-Crown. Children under Twelve, Sixpence.

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PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—MR. WILSON BARRETT.

Lessee and Manager.—EVERY EVENING, at 7.45, HAMLET. Messrs. Wilson Barrett, Speakman, Dewhurst, Willard, Clifford Cooper, Frank Cooper, Crawford, Hudson, Doone, De Solla, Evans, Fulton, Foss, &c., and George Barrett; Mesdames Eastlake, Dickens, &c., and M. Leighton. Doors open at 7.15. Box-office, 9.30 to Five. No fees. Matinees, Saturday next, Jan. 10, and Saturday, Jan. 24. Business Manager, J. H. Cobbe.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, BISHOPSGATE.

Mr. John Douglass's Pantomime CINDERELLA, Every Evening at Seven.

MORNING PERFORMANCES every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday at One.

Children under Eight price 3d. Magnificent Scenery, Francisco's Juvenile Ballet and Stud of Thirty Midget Ponies.

ST. JAMES'S GRAND HALL, REGENT-STREET AND PICCADILLY.

MR. FREDERICK BURGESS'S TWENTIETH ANNUAL DAY AND NIGHT MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC FETE

Will take place on TUESDAY (AFTERNOON AND EVENING) JAN. 27, 1885.

Upon which occasion he will be honoured with the valuable assistance of the following Eminent Artists:

Miss ALICE LINGARD (Princess's Theatre).	Mr. WALTER JOYCE, (Criterion Theatre).
Mrs. BILLINGTON (Theatres Royal Drury Lane and Lyceum).	Mr. HARRY PAULTON (Royal Avenue Theatre).
Mrs. FREDERICK BURGESS (née Miss Ellen Meyrick).	Mr. ARTHUR ROBERTS (Comedy Theatre).
Miss E. FARREN (Gaiety Theatre).	Mr. GEORGE BARRETT (Princess's Theatre).
Miss CONSTANCE LOSEBY (Gaiety Theatre).	Mr. LIONEL BROUGH (Toole's Theatre).
Miss FLORENCE ST. JOHN (Comely Theatre).	Mr. J. M. DALLAS (Gaiety Theatre).
Mr. JAMES FERNANDEZ (Theatre Royal Drury Lane).	Mr. W. J. HILL (Globe Theatre).
Mr. CHARLES WARNER (Theatre Royal Adelphi).	Mr. EDWARD TERRY (Gaiety Theatre).
Mr. FRED LESLIE (Comedy Theatre).	
Mr. HARRY WALSHAM (Comedy Theatre).	

With the kind consent of Mr. J. Hollingshead, Mr. J. L. Shine, Mr. A. Henderson, Mr. Hawtree, and Mr. Wilson Barrett.

Tickets and Places can be secured at Ambrose Austin's Universal Ticket Office, St. James's Hall. Visitors from the country can secure places by post, upon forwarding P.O. or Cheque payable A. Austin, and inclosing a stamped and directed envelope.

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JOHN WISE'S Remarkably Clever Scene, called QUIET FUN.

MOORE'S NEW SONGS.

THE PLUM-PUDDING, and TOTTIE, KISS YOUR GEORGY, DEAR.

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THE EVERLASTING THREE EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT.

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MASKELYNE and COOKE, EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly,

give their performance EVERY AFTERNOON at Three; and on the Evenings, at Eight, of Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Mr. Maskelyne's Christmas Novelties, entitled THE FAKERS OF BENARES AND THEIR BRAZEN ORACLE, introducing many Novel Effects and Startling Illusions, differing entirely in character from any previously witnessed. Stalls, 5s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Balcony, 1s.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORÉ'S Last Great Picture,

completed a few days before he died. NOW on VIEW at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, with his other great pictures. Ten to Six Daily. 1s.

ANNO DOMINI, by EDWIN LONG, R.A.—This

great Work is NOW on VIEW, together with other important works, at the GALLERIES, 13, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

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TITLEPAGE AND INDEX.

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THE NILE EXPEDITION.

The forward march of Brigadier-General Sir Herbert Stewart, with the advanced column of troops mounted on camels and a detachment of cavalry, across the Desert from Korti to Gakdul, nearly a hundred miles, was most successfully performed last week; and our readers may do well again to look at the Map which appeared in our last publication, showing the whole Desert route from Korti to Matammeh, on the Nile opposite Shendi, halfway between Khartoum and Berber. Gakdul, where a strong military post has now been established, is the place to which Lord Wolseley will now advance with the Head-quarters Staff, the remainder of the Camel Corps, the cavalry, and a portion of the artillery; and will thence move onward to the banks of the Nile at Matammeh, where it is not unlikely that he may have to fight a battle with the Mahdi's army, or possibly nearer to Khartoum, in which case he may have the active co-operation of General Gordon with the armed steam-boats on the river, and with the Egyptian troops of the beleaguered garrison.

Sir Herbert Stewart's force, consisting of 1150 men, Guards, Marines, and Cavalry mounted on camels, Engineers, Artillery (without guns), Commissariat, and Medical Staff, with an escort of the 19th Hussars on horseback and with five or six hundred baggage camels, with field hospital and stores, started from Korti on Tuesday week, at three o'clock in the afternoon, and reached Gakdul wells at seven o'clock on the Friday morning. The marching distance of ninety-seven miles was accomplished in sixty-five hours, and during that time the camels were not once watered. The road led over many rough places, where marching was very difficult. The troops marched all night, and did not bivouac till eight o'clock on Wednesday morning, when Abu Nafki was reached. Here there was some excitement owing to the uncertainty as to the whereabouts and disposition of the inhabitants. The troops reached the first wells, called Hasheen, on Wednesday evening; but the water supply being scarce, they moved on almost immediately. On Thursday morning, at daybreak, the New Year was ushered in with great cheering from the men, which rang far and wide over the plains, and echoed through the hills. Hardly had the cheering ceased when there was again a cry of "Wells ahead!" This instantly brought the 26th Company of the Royal Engineers to the front, and under the direction of Major Doward the tripod pumps soon supplied the men's wants. At eight o'clock, the men again mounted to continue their march to the Gakdul wells, capturing on their way a quantity of spoil, and making all the natives they met prisoners. Captain Fanshawe, with a troop of the 19th Hussars, succeeded in capturing a prominent sheikh, named Abu Loola, with his family. On Thursday night Major Kitchener, with an escort, captured from a hut five natives who are said to have been the Mahdi's meat contractors. Gakdul wells was secured on Friday morning at seven o'clock. The natives had all disappeared. The water was found to be good. Five more natives were captured and brought in by Captain Walsh's division of the Mounted Infantry. Two of them were the Mahdi's uniform, and all attempted to evade capture, being well armed and disposed to fight. The force, marching in extended order, covered a frontage of forty yards, with scouts at the advance and rear guards, and presented a most formidable appearance. The natives state that the Mahdi's force is terrified at the approach of the British troops. It is stated, on the other hand, that the Mahdi has withdrawn his forces from before Omdurman since the recent attacks on that stronghold, and is now concentrated near Matammeh, with the intention of waiting the arrival of the British column there and swooping down on it when the men are exhausted by their long march. The Gakdul wells were in the hands of a hostile band a few days before General Stewart's dash on them, and the main body only deserted the post hurriedly when they heard that the British column had been seen advancing. They then dispersed, mostly southward and westward. The Arab spearmen were seen on the hills watching from a distance the movements of our troops about sunset on Friday. No attempt, however, was made to molest the force now holding Gakdul, from which a despatch has arrived reporting all well.

Leaving the troops and stores in garrison at the camp of Gakdul, Sir Herbert Stewart returned to Korti, bringing back the baggage camels to Lord Wolseley's head-quarters, where he arrived last Monday afternoon. Lord Wolseley rode out five or six miles to meet Sir Herbert Stewart, and to compliment him upon his really fine achievement. It is expected that the camels will require several days' rest before the main force can set out from Korti. A detachment of mounted infantry has been placed at the Hambok wells, and at other places along the route, to protect the water, and to enlarge the holes by which it is supplied.

A letter has been received from General Gordon, dated Dec. 14, in which he simply says "All right at Khartoum"; it was written on a scrap of paper the size of a postage-stamp. The detached force under General Earle, sent up the Nile from Korti to Merawi, which is intended to chastise the Monassir tribe for the murder of Colonel J. D. Stewart and Mr. Frank Power, and then to proceed to Abu Ahmed, the end of the Korosko Desert road, has been struggling against the stream of the river. The telegraph is destroyed above Merawi. The Staffordshire Regiment arrived at Hamdab on the 3rd, in fifty boats, and ascended the Gerendid rapids in five hours. The Monassir tribe are reported to be collected twenty-five miles ahead.

Our Special Artist, Mr. Melton Prior, has arrived at Lord Wolseley's head-quarters at Korti, and expects to be able to accompany the final advance of the Expedition. His Sketches engraved for this week's publication mostly represent different views of the Hannek Cataracts (the Third Cataract of the Nile) and the Batn-el-Hajar, or "Belly of Rocks," with the operations of unloading and repairing a damaged whale-boat; and one shows the steersmen of a boat, on the rocks, watching an officer who is crossing a dangerous part under the skilful guidance of the expert Canadian boatmen. Other Sketches, however, are devoted to the land service, and represent the trying-on of camel saddles, the inspecting of the Camel Corps by Lord Wolseley at Dongola, and the exhibition of a mimic charge by the Arab warriors of the Mudir's garrison at that place.

CITY ECHOES.

With the commencement of January came an easier tendency in the money market, due to the liberation of the dividends upon foreign bonds and many other securities, while yesterday the payment of the dividends on the home funds further added to the supply of cash, and led to a reduction from 4 and 4½ to 3½ and 3¼ per cent in deposit rates. In the next few days, however, repayments of advances, had in anticipation of the dividends, will cause a marked diminution in the amount of available capital, which, with the revenue collections, will enable the Bank to make the 5 per cent rate more effective in attracting gold from abroad should the directors maintain that figure. In the Stock Exchange the new year commenced under somewhat more favourable auspices. Advances from New York were encouraging, the New York Central and West Shore undertakings being reported as in the act of arranging their differences, while the coal companies had come to an arrangement. Later news, however, is to the effect that these rumours were groundless, and the better feeling engendered has given way to a depressed tone, much of the rise at first established having been lost. General surroundings, indeed, are not such as to encourage any sustained advance in Stock Exchange securities. Trade reports are slightly better, and an advance in some of the produce markets has taken place; but a much more decided improvement in the general state of business must be exhibited, and more support must be forthcoming from the outside public, before matters in the "House" can be expected to mend.

Next week, or perhaps sooner, the English Railway companies will be announcing the results of the half-year's working, so far as the dividends are concerned. It is scarcely necessary to remark that in several cases the rates of distribution will be lower than for the second half of 1883, only three, out of the fifteen principal railways, having earned increased receipts; these are the Great Eastern, £824; the Lancashire and Yorkshire, £994; and the Metropolitan District, £10,784. A substantial saving in passenger duty will be shown probably, as the reduction only partially came into effect during the period with which the comparison is made. Against this, however, must be set the increase in preference charges, and also an addition of £3,565,000 in ordinary capital, divided as follows:—Great Eastern, £715,000; London and Brighton, £645,000; Great Western, £502,000; London and North-Western, £963,000; and Metropolitan, £750,000. As some guide to the probable dates at which to expect the dividend announcements, it may be stated that last year the Metropolitan rate was made known on Jan. 9; the South-Eastern on the 10th; the London and Brighton, and Manchester and Sheffield on the 11th; the Great Eastern on the 17th; the London and Chatham, and London and South-Western on the 23rd; the North-Eastern on the 24th; the Lancashire and Yorkshire on the 28th; the Midland on Feb. 1; the Great Western, and London and North-Western on the 5th; the Great Northern on the 6th; the Metropolitan District on the 7th; the Caledonian on March 4; and the North British on the 6th.

Tramway companies are believed to have experienced a very satisfactory half-year, the cheapness of fodder and the mildness of the weather having been favourable influences. The report of the London Tramways Company has been issued, and tends to confirm this impression, the receipts being sufficient to enable the recommendation of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent per annum. For the first half of last year, the rate was 6½; and for the year 1883, 5 and 9½ per cent per annum, respectively, were the dividends.

The London and Westminster and City Banks both announced their dividends on the 1st inst. The directors of the former propose paying 8 per cent for the half-year as against 9 per cent for the same period last year; while the distribution recommended by the City Bank is 10 per cent per annum, being at the same rate as paid for the six months to December, 1883. As compared with 15 per cent per annum for several previous half-years, the Union Bank of London recommend a dividend at the rate of 12½ per cent per annum, while the distribution proposed by the Imperial Bank is 7 per cent per annum, compared with 8 for the corresponding period. For the twenty-third half-year the Consolidated Bank is to pay 10 per cent per annum.

Further information respecting the relations between the Rio de Janeiro Gas Company and the Government is given in a circular issued by the directors of the gas company. The deposit made with the tender at the end of the year 1883 has been returned. The new edita, dated Sept. 30 last, contains, the directors remark, some important alterations and inaccuracies. The deposit previously required on the signing of a contract which, it will be remembered, was the point upon which the rival tender broke down, and thus is of considerable importance, is no longer required. The principal other alteration is the imposition of Custom House duties upon all the materials required for the new works and extensions. The inaccuracies referred to relate to the quantity of gas supplied, and the length of mains required. Apart from the new edita and its conditions, the directors complain that the Brazilian Government have cancelled their right to import materials duty free.

T. S.

THE BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 1884.

The Publishers' Circular, issued by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co., gives its annual analytical table of the book issues of the year 1884. It shows an increase of 228 on 1883, or, taking the new books and excluding the new editions, the increase is exactly 100. Of the total issues of new books theology stands at the head with 724 volumes, more than one sixth; juvenile works and tales stand second with 603, about one eighth; educational, classical, and philological books 543, about one ninth; history, biography, &c., 490, more than one tenth; books on the arts and sciences and illustrated works, 432, one eleventh; novels, tales, and other fiction, 408, more than one eleventh; year-books and volumes of serials, 323, one fifteenth; voyages, travels, and geographical works, 236, one twentieth; pamphlets, sermons, and miscellaneous works, 203, one twenty-third; and then, with less than 200 volumes, come poetry and the drama, 179; law, jurisprudence, &c., 163; medicine, surgery, &c., 160; and belles lettres, essays, &c., also 160. Comparing the new works of 1884 with those of 1883, the greatest increase is in books on the arts and sciences—a rise of 78; next stands history and biography with a rise of 76; then come novels, and other fiction with an increase of 59; poetry and the drama with a growth of 34; voyages and travels with a rise of 26. The increase, on the whole, is counterbalanced by a falling off of 138 in the issues of juvenile works and tales, and of 96 in belles lettres; the only other classes in which there is a reduction being the educational, classical, and philological works, which show a small reduction of 13, and the medical works with a diminution of 3. In the new editions the issues of 1884 show an increase of 128 on those of 1883, including a rise of 60 in the novels, 32 in law and jurisprudence, 22 in arts and sciences, 35 in poetry and the drama, and 31 in belles lettres; but there was a reduction of 44 in juvenile works, and several other slight alterations.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

Is there, after all, any institution that can be quoted in the world of public amusements so defiantly conservative as the circus? Here we have a spick and span fine new one at Covent Garden. The temple of lyric art has for the moment been converted into a stable; the stalls from which we have seen "Fannhäuser" and "Lohengrin" are arranged into a semicircle to allow of the clattering of the "oofs of the 'osses"; an orchestra, brilliantly lighted with electric lamps, is suspended over the stage where Faust loved and Mephisto tempted; but the humours of the ring remain the same as when Widdicombe ruled in the arena and the authors of the Bon Gualtier Ballads told us of the triumph of Donna Inez Woolfordinez:—

Round she flew as Flora flying
Spans the circle of the year,
And the youth of London, sighing,
Half forgot their ginger-beer.

The enterprising Mr. William Holland has scoured half Europe for attractions; the circuses and hippodromes of Paris, Berlin, and Vienna have been ransacked; America has been called into requisition—and yet what do we see? The same hoops, flags, and streamers, the same species of juggling with cups, balls, and spinning plates, the same bare-backed riders, the same schooled horses, ridden by ladies in irreproachable habits, and gentlemen in the most unexceptionable breeches, and a clever elephant or monkey or so, to amuse the children; but as regards grooms, porters, carpet-bearers, clowning and wheezing and gagging, precisely the same kind of circus that has existed since the days of Bartholomew Fair. With one exception, if you please, Mr. Hol and. We have the master of the ring, with his proud and stately walk—too stately and proud, alas! to rub the soles of the lovely Océana with any amount of "virgin chalk," but not too dignified to knock the clown down on the sawdust—we beg pardon, on the newly introduced cocoa-nut mat. But where is Gomersalez, the interpreter of a hundred characters on horseback? Where is the intrepid rider who, in the old days, appeared overburdened with clothing, and who, by rapid changes, appeared as a brigand; as Shaw, the Life-Guardsman; as T. P. Cooke, the conventional sailor; as a John Bull Farmer; and, finally, in the full glory of spangled tunic, the proud possessor of the silver-skirted-maiden he has erstwhile been pursuing round the ring? Of the representatives of Donna Inez Woolfordinez there is a sufficient number; but Gomersalez is at a discount. Not, indeed, that barebacked riding has deteriorated since his day. The latest youthful descendant of the time-honoured circus name of Batty appears in the person of Mr. George Batty, whose "unrivalled Newmarket-jockey act" gains the strongest applause of the evening; and the handsome horseman, active, athletic, and intelligent, is evidently a favourite with the fair sex. To balance the account, we have the beautiful Océana, who is so popular in Paris—a very comely lady, with pleasant face and expression, who, swinging on a slack wire, picks up a lace pocket-handkerchief, and goes through the stereotyped formula of throwing up balls and bottles and spinning plates at the top of a stick. No high effort of imagination is required for these exercises, but they interest when they do not depress the spectator. A word, of course, in praise of the trained animals. The children enjoy the comic seriousness of one of the best monkeys ever seen outside the cage at the Zoo; and the elephants, who trumpet out their pleasure whether they ring bells or consume tarts and biscuits, are placed very high in the public estimation. In order to make a very special Christmas feature, Mr. Holland has arranged a pantomimic sketch for the children, and the story of "St. George and the Dragon" is illustrated with considerable skill and prettiness. The concluding tableau, when the miniature players, on their ponies, with shields, banners, armour, and panoply, are massed in the ring, is as pretty a sight as can be seen, even when contrasted with far more expensive and sumptuous shows.

The Alhambra has settled down under its new magisterial license into a "theatre of varieties"—that is to say, the Lord Chamberlain's power over the vast hall has disappeared, and civilised people are actually permitted, as they are in every other capital in the world, to enjoy a mixed and miscellaneous entertainment without putting out their after-dinner cigars or dispensing with the post-prandial cup of coffee. So the Alhambra, as reconstituted, depends upon ballets and comic songs. In the first department the Alhambra has literally no rival. The much-vaunted Eden Théâtre in Paris, even the show-houses of Brussels, Berlin, and Vienna, "cannot hold a candle" to the tasteful, artistic, and decorous spectacles that follow one another, year after year, at the great theatre in Leicester-square. With M. Jacobi to lead and compose, and the spirited directors to find the money, we may expect many more ballets as they are wanted as graceful and fantastic as the "Swans," and as luridly magnificent as the weird and phantasmagorian "Melusine." Here we have deliberate contrast; it is the comedy and tragedy of terpsichorean art. Apparently, the force of beauty can no further go—until next time. Would, indeed, that the Alhambra directors could infuse as much life, sense, and promise into the modern music-hall song! Music-hall minstrelsy has degenerated until it has become the most depressing and ghastly entertainment that is presented in the metropolis. There are no really good songs to sing, and very few really good singers to sing them. Here the "force of folly" can no further go; and Mr. Charles Morton, the honoured father of all the music-halls, would be doing the State much service if he would infuse a little life and create some much-desired reform in a department now almost wholly given over to tedious vulgarity or unblushing inanity. If the people liked the modern music-hall minstrel, it would be a different matter. But they don't. They sit and stare or yawn, and not one honest laugh is heard, while the poor singer is labouring with his jokes or lumbering with his dancing.

There can be no question of the success of Mr. Paulton's burlesque, "The Babes," at Toole's Theatre; and the merry mice are playing there to their hearts' content, whilst the popular managerial cat is away in the provinces, making money as fast as he can and delighting every town he enters. The early predictions have been in every way fulfilled, and, thanks to Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Willie Edouin, and the captivating Miss Alice Atherton, another "Blue Beard" has been secured on the same field of action. The revised Christmas edition of the burlesque brings out new songs, new dances, fresh fun; and the visitors on arriving receive a Christmas-box with "Jessie's compliments." This turns out to be the heading of a very pretty album, containing an excellent photograph of Miss Alice Atherton, which is presented to everyone who books a stall or circle seat for one of the popular matinées.

That critics are not infallible—whatever Lord Lytton or Mrs. Kendal may think of them—is sufficiently proved by the extraordinary success achieved by Mr. H. C. Hawtreys' "Private Secretary," now running to overcrowded houses at the Globe. The prospects of the play were so doubtful at the Prince's Theatre that it would have been withdrawn had there been anything to put up in its place. Suddenly and un-

expectedly it went up with a rush. It bore bravely the danger of transplanting to a theatre not wholly connected with comic pieces, and now it is one of the most popular plays in London, the photographs of Mr. W. J. Hill and of Mr. Penley selling as well in the shops as those of any "professional beauty." There is no reason why such a play should not run until the end of the year. If the actors do not weary of their work all will be well.

And now for the future. The true theatrical season of the year will be started by Mr. M. L. Mayer at the French Plays. On this last Thursday will have been welcomed to the little Royalty the famous Jane Hading and the notorious M. Damala in the characters they "created" in George Ohnet's—to me very interesting and dramatic—romance, "Le Maître de Forges." Jane Hading having been discussed, and the various readings and business duly contrasted with those of the Kendals and other performers at the St. James's, we are to be summoned to the Prince's Theatre to see Mrs. Langtry, on her return from America and the provinces, fortified by experience, and as earnest as ever in the art she has so warmly espoused.

On or about Jan. 17—I should say Thursday, Jan. 22—Mrs. Langtry will appear in a new and almost literal version of "La Princesse Georges," by Alexandre Dumas fils, a play never before acted in England, either in French or English, but well known to all who have studied and admired the consummate art of Aimée Desclée. The play is strong, and will give Mrs. Langtry a fine opportunity. She will be supported by Mr. Charles Coghlan as the Prince, an actor who will be welcomed back to London with great delight, and by an excellent company, containing the names of Ada Ward, Kate Pattison, Helen Matthews, Annie Rose, F. Everill, and F. Smedley. The next production at the Haymarket will be Boucicault's "Old Heads and Young Hearts," touched up by the author for modern production, and enabling Mrs. Bancroft to appear in Madame Vestris' original character, the Lady Alice Hawthorne. Mr. Brookfield will play old Farren's character, Jesse Rural, and Mr. Bancroft in that identified with Charles Mathews—Littleton Coke. The play was originally produced at the Haymarket in 1844; it was revived at the Vaudeville in 1874.

Shakespeare's "As You Like It" is underlined at the St. James's, and promised this month. The next production at the Court is likely to be an English version of "Les Rantzau," by MM. Erckmann-Chatrian, called "The Peacemaker." C. S.

Mr. John L. Child gave, on Thursday, the 8th, at St. George's Hall, the first of four dramatic and miscellaneous recitals, assisted by vocal and instrumental music. The other recitals are announced to take place, at the same hall, on the 29th inst., Feb. 19, and March 14.

Late on Tuesday night there was a gathering of ladies and gentlemen interested in the drama who had accepted the invitation of Mr. Augustus Harris to assist in the consumption of the cake and wine provided by Baddeley, the Drury Lane performer, who in 1794 left, by will, £100 invested in Three per Cents, the annual interest on which was to supply cake and wine for the members of the Drury Lane company, to be partaken of on Twelfth Night. The original bequest this year, as on many others, received a handsome addition, but the proceedings in connection with the cutting of the cake and its distribution were duly observed. The cake was cut by Mr. James Fernandez.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

In the parish church of Kirk Sandall, near Doncaster, on the 1st inst., Mr. R. Nassau Sutton-Nelthorpe, of Scawby, Lincolnshire, was married to the Hon. Dulcibella Eden, eldest daughter of Lord Auckland. The bridegroom was accompanied by Sir William Eden, Bart., his best man. The bridesmaids were the Hon. Mary Eden, Miss Janetta Sutton, the Hon. Maud and the Hon. Constance Hamilton Russell, Miss Violet Dickinson, Miss Beatrice Eden, Miss Tollemache, Miss Elfrida Lloyd, Miss Paget, and Miss Janetta Sibthorp; and there were two pages, the Hon. Evelyn and the Hon. Ashley Eden, half-brothers of the bride. The bridesmaids' dresses, designed after Sir Joshua Reynolds, consisted of white satin petticoats, and overskirts of soft white silk, with pointed bodices and fichus of the same, large caps, and yellow shoes and stockings. Each wore a pin brooch, with the initials "D" in pearls and "N" in diamonds, the bridegroom's present, and carried a bunch of yellow chrysanthemums. The pages were in Gainsborough costumes of cream ribbed serge, cloaks lined with yellow silk, and three-cornered white hats. Each wore a pin to match the bridesmaids' brooches. The bride was conducted to the chancel by her father, who gave her away. The service was fully choral.

The marriage of Sir John Sinclair, Bart., of Dunbeath, with Miss Edith Dunbar, only daughter of Colonel Dunbar, of her Majesty's Bodyguard, took place on Wednesday afternoon at St. Peter's Church, Edinburgh. A number of gentlemen, including the bridegroom and best man, the Earl of Caithness, wore Highland costumes. The bride was conducted to the altar by her father. She wore a costume of the richest white satin brocade, trimmed with Mechlin lace and orange-blossoms, with a train of plain white satin. Her ornaments were diamonds and pearls. Her young brother followed as a page in full Highland costume. There were eight bridesmaids. They were tastefully dressed in costumes of cream brocade and satin, decorated with feather trimming; high-crowned hats, with pale salmon-coloured feathers. The service was fully choral; the officiating clergy were the Bishop of Edinburgh and the Rev. Canon Sellar, M.A., Incumbent of St. Peter's.

At St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on Wednesday morning, the marriage was solemnised of Mr. Shakerley (60th Rifles), eldest son of Sir Charles Watkin Shakerley, Bart., with Miss Hilda Hodgson. The bride, who was attired in a costume of ivory duchesse satin, trimmed with old point lace and orange-blossoms, was given away by her father.

The marriage of Mr. S. H. Allenby with Lady Sophia Constance Montgomerie, eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Eglinton, will take place in town the third week in the present month.

The marriage of the Hon. John G. P. Vereker and Miss Eleanor Surtees, daughter of the late Mr. Surtees, of Hamsterley Hall, in the county of Durham, will take place at St. George's, Hanover-square, on the 28th inst.

The marriage of Viscount Torrington and Miss Emmeline St. Maur, daughter of the Rev. Henry Seymour, Rector of Holme, Pierrepont, Notts, will take place next month.

It was omitted to be stated in the Obituary notice of Mr. Hartopp, given in this week's Supplement, that he was twice married. His first wife was Honoria, daughter of the late General Gent; his second (who survives him) being Marie, daughter of Mr. Charles Hey, of Hanover.

The "Theatre Annual," an excellent Number, edited by Clement Scott, and published by David Bogue, contains, in addition to much interesting matter, contributed by Messrs. E. L. Blanchard, G. R. Sims, F. C. Burnand, and other authors of repute, eight portraits of favourite actresses.

THE COURT.

The Queen drove out yesterday week with the Duchess of Albany and Princess Beatrice. Prince Henry of Battenberg dined with her Majesty and the Royal family. Lieutenant-Colonel Stockwell, C.B., commanding the Seaforth Highlanders at Parkhurst, had the honour of being invited. Last Saturday morning the Queen went out with Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry. General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., arrived at Osborne. The Queen drove out in the afternoon, accompanied by the Duchess of Albany and Princess Beatrice. The Bishop of Newcastle and Mrs. Wilberforce arrived at Osborne. Prince and Princess Louis and Prince Henry of Battenberg dined with the Queen and the Royal family. The Bishop of Newcastle and Mrs. Wilberforce had the honour of being invited. On Sunday morning her Majesty, the Duchess of Albany, Princess Beatrice, Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the members of the Royal household attended Divine service. The Bishop of Newcastle officiated. The Bishop and Mrs. Wilberforce had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family. On Monday morning her Majesty went out, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Albany and Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor and Prince George and Princesses Louise and Victoria, went to Sherburne last Saturday morning, and hunted with the West Norfolk Hounds, afterwards returning to Sandringham House. The Prince and Princess, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, and the guests staying at Sandringham, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the household, were present at Divine service at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene in the Park on Sunday morning. The Rev. F. Henry, M.A., Chaplain to the Queen and Domestic Chaplain to the Prince and Princess of Wales, officiated, assisted by the Rev. J. O. Stephens, M.A., Rector of Blankney, Lincolnshire, who preached the sermon.

Great preparations were made at Sandringham duly to celebrate on Thursday last the coming of age of Prince Albert Victor of Wales. A Portrait of him is given with this Number, and some particulars of the young Prince will be found in another column. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Prince of Leiningen, Count and Countess Gleichen and Countess Feodore Gleichen, arrived at Sandringham on Monday afternoon on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales, to attend the "coming of age" festivities. The distinguished party were met at the Wolferton station of the Lynn and Hunstanton Railway by the Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, and attended by Colonel Trevelyan.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and suite arrived at Charing-cross from Eastwell Park, Ashford, Kent, last Saturday. In the evening the Duke and Duchess, Princess Louise, and the Marquis of Lorne witnessed the performance of "The Sorcerer," at the Savoy Theatre. His Royal Highness has consented to take the chair at a dinner to be held in the course of the next few months in aid of the funds of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum.

The arrangements for the return of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught from India are complete. Their Royal Highnesses will embark on the Peninsular and Oriental steamship Carthage, at Bombay, on April 3 next, and will arrive at Plymouth on the 29th of the same month.

Her Majesty has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath upon the Marquis of Normanby, the Most Illustrious Order of St. Patrick upon Lord Monteagle and Lord Annaly, and the Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath upon Lord Aberdare. Her Majesty has appointed Mr. Augustus Rivers Thompson, C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and Mr. Charles Grant, C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, to be Knights Commanders of the Star of India. Mr. Henry William Primrose, private secretary to the late Viceroy, is appointed a Companion of the Order. The Gazette also publishes a number of nominations to the dignity of Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire. A Companionship of the Bath has been bestowed upon the head librarian of the British Museum, Mr. Bond, and upon M. J. C. O'Dowd, the senior Army Purchase Commissioner and Deputy Judge Advocate-General of the Forces.

The Duke of Sutherland, accompanied by the Hon. the Master of Blantyre, left Stafford House, St. James's, yesterday week, for a cruise in the Mediterranean. The Duchess and Lady Alexandra Leveson-Gower have gone to her Grace's villa at Torquay.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, and Lady Gwendolin Cecil left Hatfield House, Herts, on Monday morning for the South of France and Italy. The Marquis will return home the week prior to the meeting of Parliament.

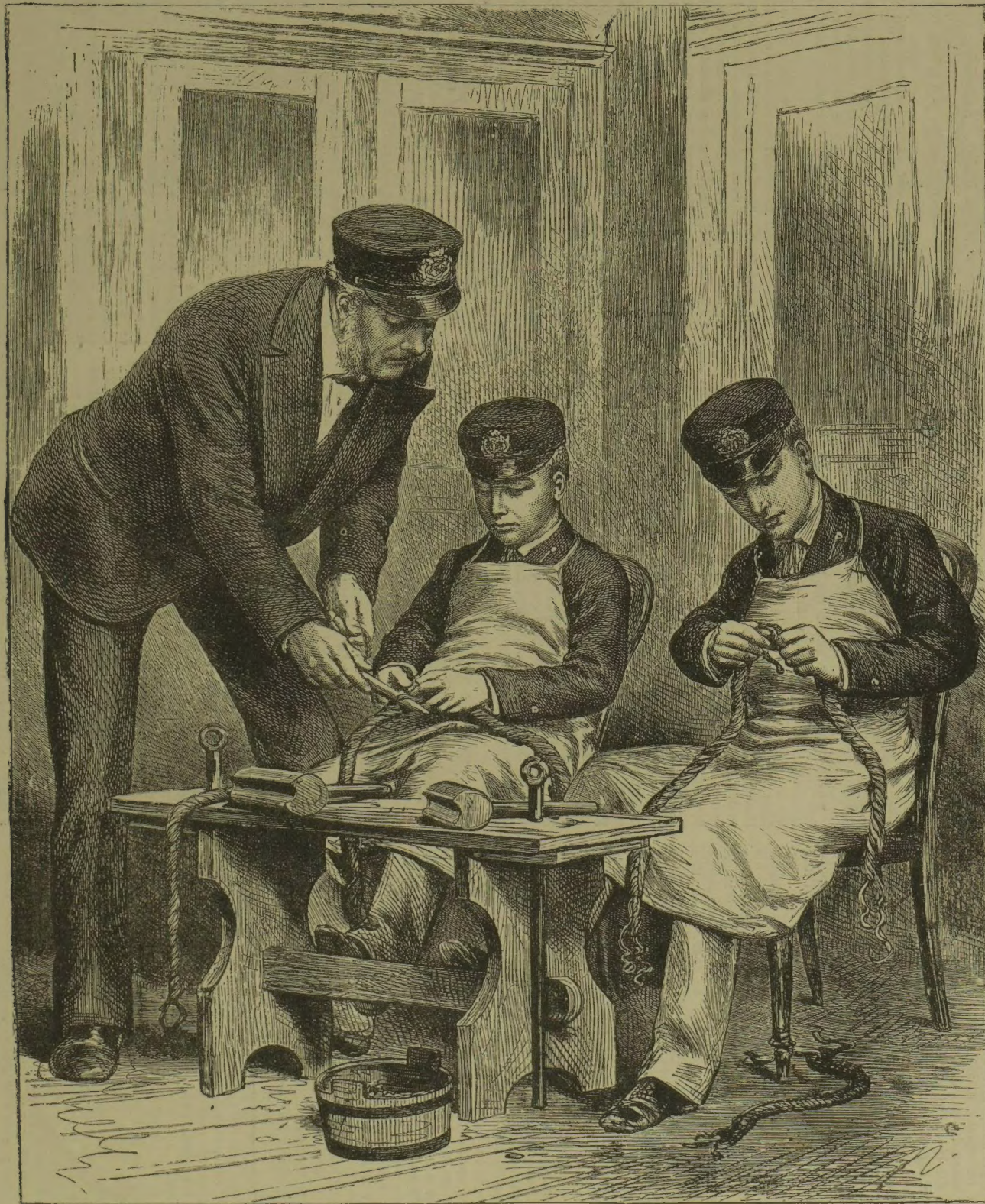
The Earl and Countess of Carnarvon have entertained a succession of visitors at Highclere Castle during the past week, previous to their departure for Italy.

At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on Monday night Mr. John M. Cook, the well-known excursion agent, gave an account of the ascent of the Nile by the expedition under the command of Lord Wolseley, expressing himself in terms of high commendation of the behaviour of the troops. He said the Canadians who are out on that river at present were the finest boatmen he had ever seen.

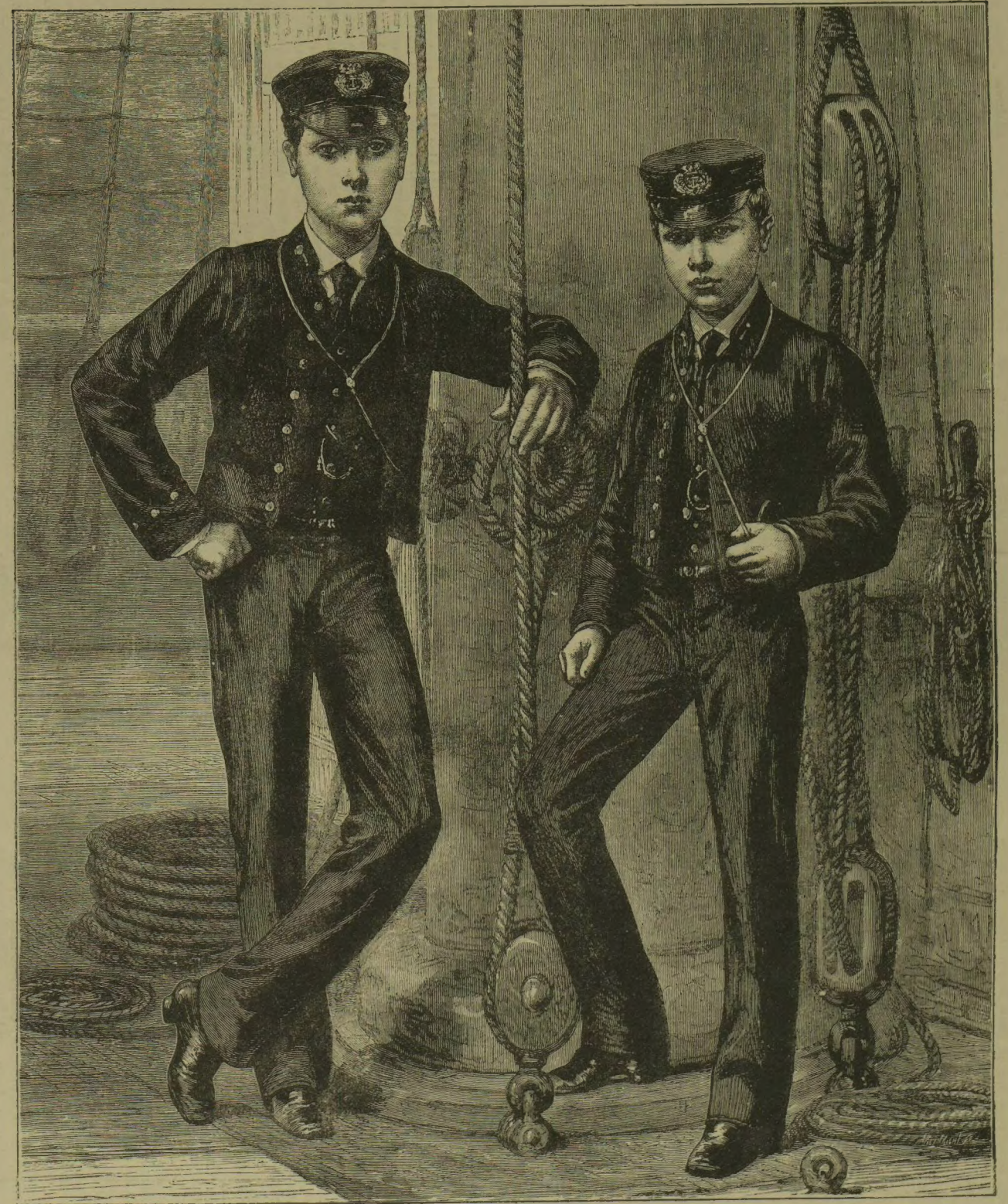
A new Board school was opened on Monday in Great Wild-street, Drury-lane. The building affords accommodation for 300 girls and the same number of boys, and also for 373 infants, the different departments being presided over by a head master and a staff of certificated teachers and assistants. The same day, in St. George's-road, Southwark, a large Board school was opened in the presence of a numerous gathering. Mr. Hawkins presided. The chairman stated that the school was built to accommodate 595 children—180 boys, 180 girls, and 235 infants. It had been decided already, however, to extend the school to accommodate another 400 children. Mr. F. Richards, an insurance agent, was summoned to the Wandsworth Police Court last week for not sending his girl, ten years of age, to school. He urged that he had an objection to the Board school to which she had been sent, and that he was now educating her privately. The magistrate having personally tested the reading and writing of the girl, which he found very good, dismissed the summons, and allowed the defendant £2 10s. for expenses, remarking that it was a vexatious proceeding on the part of the School Board officers. The new Board schools at Folkestone were opened on Wednesday in the presence of a large number of persons. The doors were opened by Sir Edward Watkin with a silver key, presented to him for that purpose by the architect. The buildings are intended to accommodate 700 pupils. An address was delivered by Mr. Mundella, M.P. 700 scholars were afterwards entertained to tea in the Townhall, and at night a banquet was held.



THE NILE EXPEDITION: THE 1ST BATTALION SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT PUSHING FORWARD AT THE HANNEK CATARACT.
SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. MELTON PRIOR.



THE SONS OF THE PRINCE OF WALES LEARNING HOW TO SPLICE A ROPE.



THE ROYAL MIDDIES, PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR AND PRINCE GEORGE.

NAVAL TRAINING OF PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR OF WALES AND HIS BROTHER.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR OF WALES.

The "coming of age," or reaching the twenty-first birthday, of his Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor (sometimes called Prince Edward), the eldest son of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, was celebrated on Thursday with domestic and local festivities at Sandringham, the seat of the Prince of Wales in Norfolk. Our account of the proceedings upon this very interesting and happy occasion must be reserved for next week's publication; but several of the young Prince's Royal uncles and aunts, and other members of the Royal family, were present among the guests of his illustrious parents; and messages of congratulation have been sent by the municipalities of cities and towns, and by various public bodies in different parts of the country. In some places, banquets and balls have been given in his especial honour, under the direction of the Mayors of corporate towns, supported by leading persons of the community, and the event has been hailed with general satisfaction by all classes of people throughout the kingdom.

Prince Albert Victor Christian Edward was born on Jan. 8, 1864. He was baptised Victor, after the Queen; his other names are those of his paternal and maternal grandfathers (the Prince Consort and the King of Denmark) and of his great-grandfather, Edward, Duke of Kent. Two of his godfathers were the King of Denmark and Leopold, the late King of the Belgians. Up till 1871 he was educated at home; the late Domestic Chaplain to the Prince of Wales, the Rev. William Lake Onslow, R.N., and M.A., instructing both him and his younger brother, Prince George, in the same way as he had previously instructed H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh when a midshipman on board H.M.S. St. George. In 1877 both the brothers entered the Navy as cadets, and passed the usual two years on board H.M.S. Britannia, at Dartmouth, under the care of Captain Henry Fairfax, R.N., C.B. In July, 1879, they went to sea in H.M.S. Bacchante, Captain Lord Charles Douglas Montagu Scott, R.N., C.B., and visited the West Indies. In the following year the flying squadron, under the command of Rear-Admiral the Earl of Clanwilliam, was organised, and consisted of H.M.S. Inconstant, Captain Fitzgerald; H.M.S. Bacchante, Captain Lord C. D. M. Scott; H.M.S. Tourmaline, Captain Robert Peel Dennistoun; Carysfort, Captain H. F. Stephenson, C.B.; and Cleopatra, Captain F. Durrant, C.M.G. The flying squadron proceeded to Vigo, Madeira, St. Vincent, Bahia, Montevideo, and the Falkland Islands. Thence to the Cape of Good Hope and Australia, on which two stations they spent a considerable time. From Australia they proceeded to Fiji, Japan and China, Singapore, Colombo, and Suez. The Bacchante then passed into the Mediterranean, and Prince Albert Victor visited Egypt, the Holy Land, and Athens, and finally returned to England in the summer of 1882. He was confirmed at Whippingham, in the Isle of Wight, by the late Archbishop Tait. This was the last time that His Grace appeared in public. The other two clergy who took part in the same ceremony are also since dead: Dean Wellesley, of Windsor, and the Rev. W. O'Connor, the then Vicar of Newport. In the autumn of the same year, Prince Albert Victor proceeded to Lausanne in order to perfect his French studies, and there he resided with M. Hua till the following May. In October, 1883, he became an undergraduate at Trinity College, Cambridge. He has attended several courses of lectures at that University, and won golden opinions of everyone there who has been brought into personal relations with him. During the Long Vacation he continued his studies at the University of Heidelberg, under the care of Professor Ihne, and returned to Cambridge last October. He will probably complete his two years' residence at Cambridge in June, and thus devote the same period to the University training as the Prince of Wales did. He is an active and zealous member of the Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers, of which corps he became Lieutenant, October, 1884. His career up to the present has been a very bright and happy one; and his amiability, good sense, thoughtfulness for others, and devotion to duty, augur well for his future, when in the course of Providence he may be called to take the Headship of the English race throughout the world as "King of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the Colonies and Dependencies thereof." He has already visited every one of them with the exception of New Zealand and Canada. His diary, together with that of Prince George, during their cruise in H.M.S. Bacchante, and which enters into full details of their experiences in every part of the globe, is now passing through the press, and will be published by Messrs. Macmillan and Co. in the course of the coming spring.

Our Extra Supplement presented with this week's Number of the *Illustrated London News* is a Coloured Portrait of his Royal Highness (named thereon Prince Edward of Wales), from a photograph by Messrs. Hills and Saunders, of Eton. The other two Engravings that bear reference to this subject are illustrative of the period, from 1877 to 1882, when this young Prince and his brother, Prince George of Wales, were under professional instruction as Naval Cadets (the old designation, "Midshipmen," being retained by familiar usage in popular speech), and when, at their first going on board the training-ship Britannia, they probably had to learn how to splice rope, with other needful arts of practical seamanship.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

Mrs. Gladstone, who is at Hawarden, yesterday week distributed the prizes gained at the annual shooting competition of the local Volunteer corps. The Premier, who was unable to attend, was represented by Mr. W. H. Gladstone.

Orders have been issued from the Horse Guards calling a meeting of commanding officers to consider the proposals for Volunteer manoeuvres at Easter next.

A movement is in progress in the 20th Middlesex (Artists) Rifles for the formation of a company of mounted infantry from among the members of that battalion. On receiving the names of a sufficient number of men for the purpose, Lieutenant-Colonel Edis will apply to the War Office for permission to form the company. The Victoria Rifles are at present the only corps in London which has mounted infantry; but there are indications, notwithstanding the somewhat heavy expense, that the movement will spread.

The annual report of the National Rifle Association will soon be issued. It is stated that, notwithstanding the unfavourable weather during the first week of the meeting, the finances have not suffered; for although the association gave £1200 more in prizes, this has been fully recouped, and £900 placed to credit, after paying all expenses in connection with the meeting. This year £1500 has been placed to the account of the association.

A permanent and free Art Gallery was opened at Leicester, on Tuesday night, by a conversazione, given by Alderman George Stevenson, Chairman of the Art Gallery Committee. A considerable number of pictures by eminent artists have been presented to the town, and the Trustees of the National Gallery have rendered valuable aid by granting the loan of a selection of celebrated pictures, the property of the nation. The opening ceremony was performed by the Mayor, Mr. Israel Hart, in the presence of a large company.

KING JOHN'S CUP, LYNN REGIS.

On Thursday last, the day on which Prince Albert Victor of Wales attained his majority, the Corporation and Burgesses of King's Lynn, Norfolk, presented him with a replica of the beautiful wassail cup which is the principal feature in the interesting regalia of the borough. It is known as "King John's Cup," the tradition being that the cup was given to the Corporation of Lynn by King John of England, who is said also to have at the same time taken his sword from his side, and presented it to be for ever thereafter carried before the Mayor. This is recorded in the inscription some time afterwards engraven on the bars of the sword:—"Ensis hic donum fuit Regis Johannis, a suo ipsius latere datum." But, some years ago, reasonable doubts were expressed as to the popular belief, the design and workmanship of the cup all proclaiming it to be the production of a later period. The art of enamelling was unknown in that reign, and the cup owes much of its beauty to enamel. It will be fitting here to describe it. It is a "full pint" measure, and weighs 73 oz. It is silver-gilt and is richly embossed and enamelled. The ornamentation is after the Decorated style, and the panels are filled by figures gracefully clothed. The decoration of the cover is evidently of later date than the cup itself. The workmanship is exquisite. The style of ornamentation, as already observed, is that of the fourteenth century; and the drapery of the figures, more especially of the ladies, is that of the time of Edward III. This seems conclusively to fix the date; but the cup may have been the gift of another King John. It is on record that in 1349, during the mayoralty of Robert Braunché, Edward III. and Queen Philippa, with King John of France, visited Lynn, and were there entertained at a sumptuous banquet. There is in St. Margaret's Church, Lynn, under the south-west tower, a magnificent monumental brass to the memory of Robert Braunché and his wives, Letitia and Margaret; and on the "frieze" is engraved a representation of a peacock



"KING JOHN'S CUP," PRESENTED TO PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR BY THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF KING'S LYNN.

feast. The King is represented sitting at the head of the table, and next him in the place of honour is the noble figure of a man, supposed to be the French King, before whom, on bended knee, an attendant, whom, from his rich attire, a local historian assumes to be Braunché himself, presents the first dish—a peacock dressed in his plumes. A goodly company of ladies and gentlemen occupy other seats at the table, and at each end are waitresses and musicians. It is supposed that King John of France presented the cup after or during the visit to Lynn. This is probably the history of "King John's Cup."

The cup made for presentation to Prince Albert Victor is in every respect an admirable reproduction. It was a fortunate idea. The presentation was made at Sandringham, on Thursday, by a deputation consisting of the Recorder (D. Brown), the Mayor (Mr. J. Bowker), three senior Aldermen, three Councillors, and two representatives of the town.

The Prince of Wales has sent thirty pheasants for the patients in the Consumption Hospital at Brompton, and presents of game for the patients of other hospitals.

The Manchester City Council on Wednesday afternoon unanimously resolved to commence the works in connection with the Thirlmere water scheme at once, and to confirm the appointment of Mr. Hill as engineer.

The Tallowchandlers' Company have made a distribution of £136 10s. as Christmas gifts among seventeen charities, including 25 guineas to their own Benevolent Association, and donations to the poor-boxes at the two City police courts.

On behalf of the Belgian Government, Major-General Wray, the Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey, on Tuesday afternoon presented silver crosses of the first class and diplomas to Captain Carcaud and his chief officer, and medals to three of the crew of the brigantine G.D.T., for their gallant and humane services in rescuing the crew and passengers of the Belgian steamer Plantyn, fifty-six in number, and conveying them safely a distance of 2000 miles. The Chamber of Commerce also presented Captain Carcaud, through his Excellency, with a vote of thanks inscribed on vellum for his gallant conduct.

A fancy-dress ball for children was given by the Lady Mayoress on Tuesday evening, at the Mansion House. More than 800 persons were present, of whom about half were juveniles. The scene presented by the gathering was most brilliant, the fancy dresses which were worn by all the children, and many of the adults, being very varied. Besides dancing, there were dissolving views, Punch and Judy, and a couple of fortune-telling gipsies.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The New Year was but a few days old when we received yet another grave warning that the time cannot be far distant for the retirement of Mr. Gladstone from office. The Prime Minister has himself, over and over again, foreshadowed this event; which, however deeply it may be regretted by the Liberal Party, is a contingency that should be prepared for. Naturally, the troublous condition of Foreign affairs, the difficulties of the Egyptian question, and the attitude of France and Germany (or of M. Jules Ferry and Prince Bismarck), have tended to greatly increase the anxieties of the Premier. Insomnia has been the result. It is true, Mr. Gladstone came to town at the close of the past week to attend the first two Cabinet Councils of the New Year. But the urgent need of rest and repose was pointed out by Sir Andrew Clark. Hence Mr. Gladstone returned on Saturday afternoon last to Hawarden Castle. We are glad to hear he has since then suffered less from the sleeplessness occasioned by the wellnigh overwhelming burdens of State.

There is reason to believe that one result of the first Ministerial consultations of the year will be to stimulate the action of the somewhat lethargic Foreign and Colonial Offices. Rather amusing was the alarmist report spread on Monday by the simple orders for the officers and men of the Channel Fleet to join their ships at Portsmouth and Plymouth, on the termination of the usual period of leave at Christmas time. Still, it cannot be doubted that the bold policy of colonisation adopted by Prince Bismarck has roused our Government to reassess Australia on the one hand, and on the other to encourage British Colonists in South Africa to rely for support on England, by formally proclaiming our Protectorate over Pondoland—a step in the direction recommended by Mr. Forster in his recent letter to the *Times*.

Nilewards, the prospect is still very gloomy from the financial point of view. But hopeful is the report from Lord Wolsley of the steady progress of the Expedition for the relief of General Gordon, who had by a messenger communicated the following good news to his Lordship at Korti:—"Khartoum all right. Dec. 14.—C. G. Gordon." It was heart-stirring to read of the cheery way in which General Stewart's smart corps welcomed the New Year on their expeditious desert march to Gakdul wells, which the Camel Corps and Mounted Infantry reached on the 2nd inst. If Lord Wolsley should succeed in succouring General Gordon by the beginning of February, as it is hoped he may, the Government would in all likelihood find the Egyptian horizon considerably cleared—politically speaking.

Mr. Chamberlain may claim the credit, if there be any credit in it, of having broken the political truce which appeared to have been sealed by the chiefs of the two great parties in the State when they met at the little house in Downing-street to amicably agree upon the lines of the Redistribution Bill. Entertained at dinner on Tuesday by the Birmingham Artisans' Association, the President of the Board of Trade raked up the Aston riots dispute, which might very well be dropped now. In his references to the looming land legislation, Mr. Chamberlain would have done well to have remembered the praiseworthy efforts of Earl Cairns and other Conservative leaders to reform the land laws, and should in fairness have mentioned the generous concessions English landlords are continually making to their tenants. The Marquis of Salisbury, for instance, before leaving Hatfield for Dieppe, granted an abatement of 15 per cent to his tenants.

Sir Charles Dilke, who returned to town from his remote seat in France too late for last Saturday's Cabinet Council, has elected to stand for the newly constituted borough of Chelsea at the General Election.

One of the most highly respected members of the Conservative Party has notably distinguished himself by speaking out boldly against the "Fair Trade" delusion. We refer to Sir Matthew White Ridley. Addressing a meeting at Newcastle on Saturday, Sir Matthew seasonably condemned the mischievous agitation in favour of a return to Protection under another name.

The pet idea of Sir John Lubbock and of Mr. Leonard Courtney, "Proportional Representation," is to be advocated with more or less eloquence throughout the kingdom, the campaign beginning on the 13th inst. at Leicester. In the meantime, the Cobden Club is doing good service by circulating Mr. Cobden's common-sense condemnation of this crocheted.

In Ireland, Mr. Parnell's protégé, Mr. John O'Connor, has, through the intervention of the Home Rule leader, been chosen after all as the favoured candidate for Tipperary, instead of Mr. O'Ryan, of Cashel. We also learn that one of the ablest of Mr. Parnell's young followers, Mr. Healy, was on Tuesday rewarded for his services by the electors of Monaghan, who presented the hon. member with a cheque for £1000.

Enormous catches of sprats have been recently made off Herne Bay and other parts of the Kentish coast.

Mr. Newton, of the British Museum, recommenced his lectures on archaeology at University College on Friday. The course this term will consist of six lectures on Greek inscriptions, to be delivered on alternate Fridays at four p.m.

Reports obtained by the Foreign Office from our diplomatic agents abroad, in reference to the tenure of dwelling-houses, show that the English leasehold system is almost unknown in Continental countries—house property, as a general rule, being freehold.

The Marquis of Salisbury has returned his tenants 15 per cent of their rents; and Lord Donington's annual distribution of coals to the poor and aged on his estates took place last week. Between ninety and one hundred tons of coals were given away in the various parishes in Leicestershire and Derbyshire, where his Lordship's estates are situated.

The Queen has approved of the 10th (Prince of Wales' Own Royal) Hussars being permitted to bear the words, "Egypt, 1884," on its appointments; and of the undermentioned regiments, which already bear on their appointments or colours the words, "Egypt, 1882," being permitted to add thereto the date "1884," in commemoration of their distinguished and gallant behaviour during the campaign in the Eastern Sudan:—19th Hussars, the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), the King's Royal Rifle Corps, the York and Lancaster Regiment, the Gordon Highlanders, and the Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish Fusiliers).

While two passenger-trains were passing each other on the evening of the 2nd inst., midway between King's-cross and Gower-street Stations, on the Metropolitan Railway, an explosion occurred, breaking the glass in the carriages, extinguishing the lights, and damaging the brickwork of the tunnel and the telegraph wires. Several passengers sustained slight injuries, but the permanent way being unaffected, traffic was not interrupted. The explosion is involved in mystery, but there appears to be no doubt that dynamite of some kind was used. In the opinion of the authorities the explosion was caused by the throwing a small bomb from one of the carriages.



From Photo by Hills & Saunders

RIDDLE & COUCHMAN, LITH. 22, SOUTHWARK BRIDGE ROAD, S.E.

H. R. H. Prince Edward of Wales.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, Jan. 6.

The New Year commences much as the old year ended, with more grief than joy, and more misery than prosperity. Everybody is complaining. The humble dealers who count upon the receipts of the annual New-Year's fair on the boulevards have been disappointed. Money is scarce, and the Parisians are restricting their expenditure.

There has been much talk of late about Louise Michel, the Scarlet Virgin, who, in 1871, proposed to burn Paris in order to oppose a barricade of fire to the advancing Versailles troops; who preached Revolution from the pulpit of the Church of St. Bernard, and who, while taking her turn at firing from the barricades, displayed a courage and self-sacrifice in caring for the sick and wounded which won the admiration of all. Since the manifestation of the Esplanade des Invalides in March, 1883, when Louise Michel led the mob to the pillage of the bakers' shops, she has been imprisoned in the Penitentiary of Clermont. Recently, she was transferred to St. Lazare, at Paris, and allowed to spend the day at the bedside of her sick mother. On Saturday the old mother died, and yesterday her funeral was made the occasion of a great revolutionary manifestation. Between ten and twelve thousand persons followed the hearse, and the various Anarchist societies were represented with their red banners surmounted by the Phrygian liberty cap. All along the route, from the Boulevard Ornano to the cemetery of Levallois-Perret, the cortège marched calm and orderly, and from time to time uttered a dull roar, which resolved itself into cries of "Vive la Commune!" "Vive l'Anarchie!" "Vive la Révolution Sociale!" On passing in front of a barracks the crowd cried "Down with the army!" At the Boulevard Berthier the police interfered, and insisted upon the red flags being rolled up. M. Henri Rochefort maintained that they were not flags, but banners; that they had figured at the funeral of Gambetta; and that he answered for the order of the crowd, if the police would allow the banners to remain. M. Rochefort's argument prevailed, and the cortège continued, preceded now by the police. The coffin was placed in the grave where Ferré, the Communist leader, shot at Satory in 1871, is buried. Various Anarchist and incendiary speeches were delivered, and the crowd separated with renewed cries of "Vive l'Anarchie!"

Louise Michel was not allowed to follow her mother to the grave. She was taken back to prison in the morning; and reports are current that the "grande martyre," as she is called, has lost her reason. One may perhaps be excused for doubting whether she ever fully possessed her reason. At any rate, she is now a most embarrassing prisoner for the Government. Having certain qualities in common with Jeanne d'Arc, and certain others in common with Charlotte Corday, and being inspired as she is with a mania of self-sacrifice, Louise Michel has alone sufficient influence to instigate the populace of Paris to revolution. On the other hand, while dangerous when at liberty, she is dangerous when imprisoned, because the populace regard her as a martyr of liberty and the Government as the representative of tyranny and oppression. Furthermore, if she be no longer in her right mind, even the reactionary press makes common cause with the Anarchists, and demands her pardon in the name of humanity. M. Grévy is reported to have said that Louise Michel would greatly oblige the Government if she would make her escape; and during the past week every facility has been given her for escaping, but the great martyr of anarchy has refused to take advantage of her opportunities.

The preparations for the forthcoming Senatorial elections absorb the attention of politicians. The only event of the political week is the resignation of the Minister of War, General Camponon, who has been replaced by General Lewal. General Camponon has resigned because he considers pernicious the programme of foreign policy advocated by M. Ferry and approved by the Chamber of Deputies in the vote of Nov. 28—namely, the entire occupation of Tonquin, and vigorous offensive measures against the Chinese. General Camponon is of opinion that the sending of more troops to China, and the exhaustion of the munitions of war in the arsenals, will endanger the safety of the home country. General Lewal believes that the French army can accomplish in the East the effort demanded by Parliament without compromising the national defence. It is reported that the French have gained a great victory in Tonquin, completely routing the Chinese, six hundred of whom were killed, besides a considerable number being wounded.

Some emissaries from Timbuctoo have arrived in Paris for the purpose of concluding a commercial treaty with France. —The Théâtre Italien, started, two years ago, by the singer Maurel, is closed. The experiment has failed utterly, and definitively proved that the Parisians will no longer support a style of opera which has no longer a *raison d'être*.—M. Arnold Mortier, the "Monsieur de l'Orchestre" of the *Figaro*, died last week, at the age of forty-one. M. Mortier created a kind of light descriptive theatrical criticism, devoted to the minor and anecdotic sides of the stage, which has won great favour with the public, and been introduced into all the Parisian newspapers. The inventor of this "essentially Parisian" daily article of theatrical gossip was a Dutchman. By force of work and habit he became one of the wittiest of Parisians. The sum of £20,000 sterling, offered as the chief prize by the Decorative Arts Lottery, has been paid to a M. Breton, who is a gardener at Grand Montrouge, near Paris.—A proclamation has been issued by the grandson of Naundorff, who claimed to be the Dauphin, imprisoned with Louis XVI. in the Temple.

T. C.

Fresh earthquake shocks have been felt at Nerja, Algarrobo, Granada, Malaga, Loja, and Motril. Many towns and villages are destroyed and deserted, their inhabitants being encamped in the fields. King Alfonso is about to visit the provinces of Malaga and Granada, and a national subscription will be raised in aid of the sufferers.—There have been earthquake shocks also in Austria, Italy, and America.

The Emperor William held the usual New-Year reception, which was attended by the Ambassadors of Italy, Austria, France, England, and Turkey. Their Excellencies, who were in full Court dress, drove to the Palace in State carriages. His Majesty, in receiving their congratulations, conversed cordially with each in turn.

The Emperor of Austria, the Crown Prince, Archduke Ferdinand of Tuscany, Prince Leopold of Bavaria, and the other members of his Majesty's hunting party, returned to Vienna on Wednesday week from Styria. The Emperor left again in the evening for Pesth, which he reached next morning, being followed by the Crown Prince and Princess. The Emperor and the Crown Prince left Buda on Monday morning by special train to shoot in the vicinity of Gödöllő.—Prince Adolphe Auerberg, President of the Supreme Court of Accounts, died suddenly on Monday from heart disease.

President Arthur gave the usual New-Year reception at the White House to the Diplomatic Corps, the Cabinet Ministers, the members of Congress, and the public officials,

The reception was largely attended.—Mr. Cleveland gives a contradiction to the statement that he was president of a free-trade club, and declares that he has never been connected with any such organisation. He has resigned the Governorship of New York.—Mr. William R. Grace became Mayor of New York on the 1st inst., thus entering upon the reformed system of city government.—General Grant's affairs have been arranged satisfactorily to himself and to his friends. His personal effects, gifts, trophies, relics, &c., will be given up by Mr. Vanderbilt.—An earthquake shock was felt in the southern section of Frederick County, Maryland, on the 2nd inst.

A telegram from Calcutta states that the Tarakeswar Railway was formally opened on Monday by the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. This is the first broad-gauge railway constructed by private enterprise in India.

A Reuter's telegram from Durban on Tuesday states that a British protectorate has been proclaimed over the whole coast of Pondoland. Pondoland is a strip of country on the South-East Coast of Africa, lying between Cape Colony and Natal. Its acquisition will join the coast-line of the two colonies, which lie unbroken as far north as the Tugela River. Between this point and St. Lucia Bay there is a break formed by a portion of Zululand.

A Melbourne telegram says that the Agent-General in London for Victoria has been instructed to vigorously protest against the recognition of German claims to New Guinea. New South Wales has declined to join in the protest made by Victoria against the German annexations in New Guinea. The reasons given, however, signify anything but indifference to the event. The provisional refusal is "based on the absence of definite information—first, as to whether the recent action of Germany is the result of an arrangement with the Imperial Government; secondly, as to the terms of such agreement, if it exists; thirdly, as to the possibility of extending the British protectorate over New Guinea so as to include the shores of the island from East Cape to the German line of occupation; and, fourthly, as to whether, as a counterpoise to the German occupation, England may not have determined to occupy all the islands which command, from a strategical point of view, the whole of that portion of the Pacific. For these reasons, the Government of New South Wales declines to take any steps in questions of such gravity and complexity, seriously involving as they do the relations of the Colonies with England and her relations with the European nations, without the fullest information."—The New South Wales revenue returns show an increase of £346,000 for the quarter ending December, 1884, upon the returns for the corresponding period of 1883, and an increase of £641,000 upon the whole year. The outcome for the year exceeds the Treasurer's estimate of February last by £300,000. Mr. Farnell, the Minister for Lands of New South Wales, in moving the second reading of the Crown Lands Bill in the Legislative Assembly in November, stated that the area of the whole colony was estimated to be 323,438 square miles, equal to about 207,000,000 acres. Up to Sept. 30, 1883, 36,553,416 acres had been alienated, leaving up to that date 170,446,484 acres unalienated.—Herr Frederick Buck has been instructed by the Government of Tasmania to dispatch from Germany a number of emigrants of that nationality, and has accordingly proceeded thither with that object.

A Reuter's telegram from Melbourne, dated Monday evening, says:—A match has been played between Shaw's team of English cricketers and a representative Australian eleven composed of picked men from the different colonies, exclusive of the members of Murdoch's team who visited England last year. The match resulted in a victory for the English Eleven.

MUSIC.

The earliest performance of the year just opened was that of "The Messiah" by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society on Jan. 1. The chorus singing was, as usual, excellent, and produced a profound impression, especially in those sublime movements "For unto us" and "Hallelujah." Three of the solo vocalists were, as on previous occasions, Madame Valleria (soprano), Madame Patey (contralto), and Mr. E. Lloyd (tenor)—each of whom sang with special effect. A comparative novelty was the assignment of the bass solo to Mr. Watkin Mills, a rising young singer, who made a very favourable impression, particularly in the airs "Why do the Nations" and "The Trumpets shall Sound." Mr. Barnby, as conductor, and Dr. Stainer, as organist, manifested their well-known practised skill. The sixth concert of the society will take place next Wednesday evening, when Haydn's "Creation" will be given.

The Monday Popular Concerts recommenced this week, with the same string quartet party as before—Madame Norman-Néruda, Mr. L. Ries, Mr. Hollander, and Signor Piatti. A new sonata composed by the last-named gentleman—for violoncello obbligato with pianoforte—was played by him in association with Madame Haas. The work is of full dimensions, consisting of four divisions, each of which is amply developed. Although the violoncello part is chiefly prominent, the pianoforte has occasionally more than the importance of a mere accompaniment. The former was played to perfection by the composer of the work, who was well supported by his coadjutor. The lady was also heard in Bach's organ prelude and fugue in A minor, as transcribed for the pianoforte by Liszt; and in another solo in answer to the encore. Mr. E. Lloyd, being indisposed, was replaced by Miss C. Elliot, who rendered some vocal pieces with much expression; Signor Romili having been the accompanist. Beethoven's string quartet in C minor (from Op. 18) and Haydn's in D minor (Op. 42) completed an interesting programme. The first of the Saturday afternoon performances takes place this week.

The first Ballad concert of the year was given at St. James's Hall last Saturday afternoon, the first of a new series of evening concerts taking place next Wednesday evening.

Miss Esther Barnett gave an evening concert at Steinway Hall last Wednesday, when a varied programme of vocal and instrumental music included her own pianoforte performances. The young lady's merits have gained her distinction as an exhibitor of the Guildhall School of Music.

London music will soon begin to resume its wonted activity. The principal events during the remaining portion of this month will be—besides those mentioned above—the Sacred Harmonic Society's performance of Berlioz's oratorio, "The Childhood of Christ," and other works, on Jan. 23; and Scotch concerts, at St. James's Hall on the following evening, and on the succeeding Monday at the Royal Albert Hall.

The Handel Society has organised a public performance of Handel's "Saul," to be given at St. James's Hall on Saturday evening, Feb. 21, with full orchestra and chorus.

The Oswestry Musical Festival, which resembles the Welsh Eisteddfod in everything but name, was held on Monday in the Powis Hall, Oswestry. The shops were closed, and the day was observed as a general holiday. Dr. Rogers, the organist of Bangor Cathedral, was the musical adjudicator.

HOME NEWS.

The Law Courts reopen for the Hilary Sittings next Monday. Lord Rosebery has sent £25 to the Mayor of Hull for the distress fund in that town.

Captain Fellowes, M.P. for Huntingdonshire, has been elected a director of the Great Northern Railway, in room of the late Mr. Denison.

The sentence of death passed upon Elizabeth Gibbons for the murder of her husband at Hayes has been commuted to one of penal servitude for life.

An aeronautical exhibition will be opened in June at the Alexandra Palace, under the patronage of the Aeronautical Society of Great Britain.

A concert, arranged by Miss Staveley, was given by the Kyrle Society on Monday evening, at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street, to the nurses and staff.

A general order issued from the War Office notifies the award of 226 silver medals to as many non-commissioned officers and men of the Army for long service and good conduct.

An Indian good-service pension has been conferred upon Colonel Alexander Brownlow, of the Royal Engineers, who was mentioned in despatches, and promoted for his services in the memorable Indian Mutiny Campaign.

A Civil List pension of £80 per annum, with the benefit of survivorship, has been granted to Miss Charlotte and Miss Caroline Raeburn, the grand-daughters of Sir Henry Raeburn, R.A., Portrait Painter to the King in Scotland, who died in 1823.

A collision occurred in the Channel on Thursday night, last week, between a Norwegian and a German vessel, by which both ships were cut down to the water's edge. They were kept afloat with difficulty until they reached Torbay and Brixham.

A Civil List pension has been granted to Miss Emma Lubbock Brown, in recognition of the services rendered to history by her brother, Mr. Rawdon Brown, the editor of the Venetian series of State papers, and other important documents.

Dr. Storrar, chairman, presided on Tuesday evening at the meeting of Convocation of the University of London, at which a committee of forty-three was appointed to consider the proposed establishment of a teaching University for London, and to report thereon.

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with Onslow College, Chelsea, was held on Tuesday evening, in the presence of a considerable gathering of ladies and gentlemen. Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., presided, and Sir Algernon Borthwick distributed the prizes.

The Victoria (Philosophical) Institute held a meeting on Monday evening, at which twenty-nine new members were elected, raising the institute's strength to 1100. A paper on the "Religions of the Aboriginal Tribes of India," by Professor Avery, was read.

Mr. A. C. Benson, son of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was educated at Eton College, on the foundation, has been appointed a junior assistant master of Eton College, in the place of Mr. Inge, resigned. The students return from the Christmas holidays on the 21st inst.

Her Majesty's New-Year's gifts were distributed on the 1st inst., in the riding-school, Windsor Castle, to the poor of Windsor, Holy Trinity, and Clewer, in the presence of the clergy and a party from Windsor. The gifts consisted of beef, coals, and blankets, amounting to the value of £300.

A handsome memorial to the late Mr. Street, R.A., the architect of the Royal Courts of Justice, is in course of erection in the central hall of that building. The memorial has been designed by Mr. A. W. Blomfield, and will consist of a statue, by Mr. Armstead, R.A., upon a stand, the whole being surmounted by an ornamental canopy.

After careful inquiry into the question of the adequacy of the Central Post and Telegraph Office in London, a departmental committee have recommended the extension of the existing buildings rather than the construction of a new central office elsewhere, and they suggest the purchase of adjoining property, at a total cost of £375,000.

The late Miss Baxter, the foundress of Dundee University College, has left £71,000 in legacies; and the residue, between £300,000 and £400,000, will be divided between ten nephews and nieces, among whom are the Right Hon. W. E. Baxter, Mrs. Armitstead, Mrs. W. O. Dalglish, Mrs. James Ramsay, Mrs. Betts, and Mrs. Sheriff Robertson, of Forfar.

An extraordinary affair has occurred at Chiswick. A young servant-girl, after having received from her mistress some instructions which appeared to annoy her, destroyed various household articles, and then taking two of the children out for a walk, threw them into the Thames, afterwards jumping in herself. Fortunately, they were observed by some boatmen, although when brought ashore they were all nearly lifeless.

Miss Marsh's Convalescent Hospital, Blackrock, has received above 9000 patients, the majority from amongst the East of London sick poor. The hospital is greatly valued, both by the patients and those who send them, as, from the bracing air and excellent diet, the recoveries in it are remarkably rapid and complete. Funds are urgently needed; and contributions will be gratefully received by the secretary of the institution, Mr. F. Downham, 1, Gloucester-terrace, Beckenham, Kent; or they may be sent to Messrs. Drummond's Bank, Charing-cross, London.

The Registrar-General's returns for the past week show that in London 3283 births and 1918 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 951, while the deaths were 69 below, the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The excess of births was in a great measure due to arrears of registration from the previous week. The deaths included 32 from small-pox, 22 from measles, 28 from scarlet fever, 28 from diphtheria, 33 from whooping-cough, 11 from enteric fever, 15 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and 1 from cholera. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had steadily declined in the five preceding weeks from 511 to 370, rose again last week to 537, but were 39 below the corrected average.

The annual meeting of the committee of the Civil Service Life-Boat Fund, was held on the 7th inst., and was presided over by Mr. W. H. Haines, of the House of Lords. The report, which was read by Mr. Charles Dibdin, the honorary secretary, stated that during the past year there had been a satisfactory increase in the number of subscribers, of whom there are now 7416, and that the fund had, during 1884, endowed the life-boat "Civil Service No. 4," which is placed at Walmer. The three other life-boats which have been presented by the Civil Service to the National Institution, and endowed, are stationed respectively at Tyne-mouth, Port Patrick, and Wexford, and have been the means of saving 156 lives and three vessels. The report closes with a strong appeal for £1200, to enable the committee to defray the expense of the boat-houses and shipways which the Fund's boats have entailed on the parent society.



1. Arrival of Major Doward's Engineer-Boats at Dongola.

3. Lord Wolseley inspecting the Guards' Camel Corps at Dongola.

2. Trying Camel Saddles at Wady Halfa.

4. Mimic Charge of Arabs before Lord Wolseley at Dongola.

THE NILE EXPEDITION: SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. MELTON PRIOR.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

We regret to announce the rather sudden death of the Right Rev. John Jackson, D.D., who has been the Bishop of London sixteen years past. His Lordship, who was in the seventy-fourth year of his age, had of late been in weak health, but preached in St. Paul's Cathedral last Sunday afternoon. He was taken ill at five o'clock on Monday morning, and his medical attendant was summoned, but no dangerous results were then apprehended. On Monday afternoon and in the evening his Lordship was able to attend to some correspondence and other urgent business. He retired to rest early, and slept soundly for a short time; but as the night wore on he was taken worse, and the physician was again hastily summoned. The Bishop, however, was beyond such aid; he expired at half-past three on Tuesday morning. The sad news was conveyed, at an early hour in the morning, to the Dean of St. Paul's, when the great bell of the Cathedral was tolled. As the tolling of this bell is only heard on the occasion of the death of a member of the Royal family, of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of London, the attention of the citizens of London was immediately attracted to the circumstance, and great regret was expressed at the sudden decease of one who was so well known, and who for so many years had been connected with the Metropolis. The minute bell of the church in Bishopsgate, in which parish the deceased ministered in the early part of his career, was also tolled, also those of several other of the City churches.

The late Bishop, a son of Mr. Henry Jackson, London merchant, was born on Feb. 22, 1811, and was educated at Reading School under Dr. Valpy, whence he proceeded to Pembroke College, Oxford. He there graduated in 1833, with first-class honours, and gained the Denver Theological Prize. From 1836 to 1846 he was Head Master of the Islington Proprietary School, and was during part of the time Incumbent of St. James's, Muswell-hill. He was appointed Rector of St. James's, Piccadilly, in 1846; Chaplain to the Queen, 1847; and Canon of Bristol, 1852; and, on the death of Dr. Kaye, next year, was made Bishop of Lincoln. He was translated to the See of London on Jan. 4, 1869, in succession to Dr. Tait, the late Archbishop of Canterbury. Bishop Jackson was a diligent administrator and frequent preacher; he was the author of a religious treatise entitled

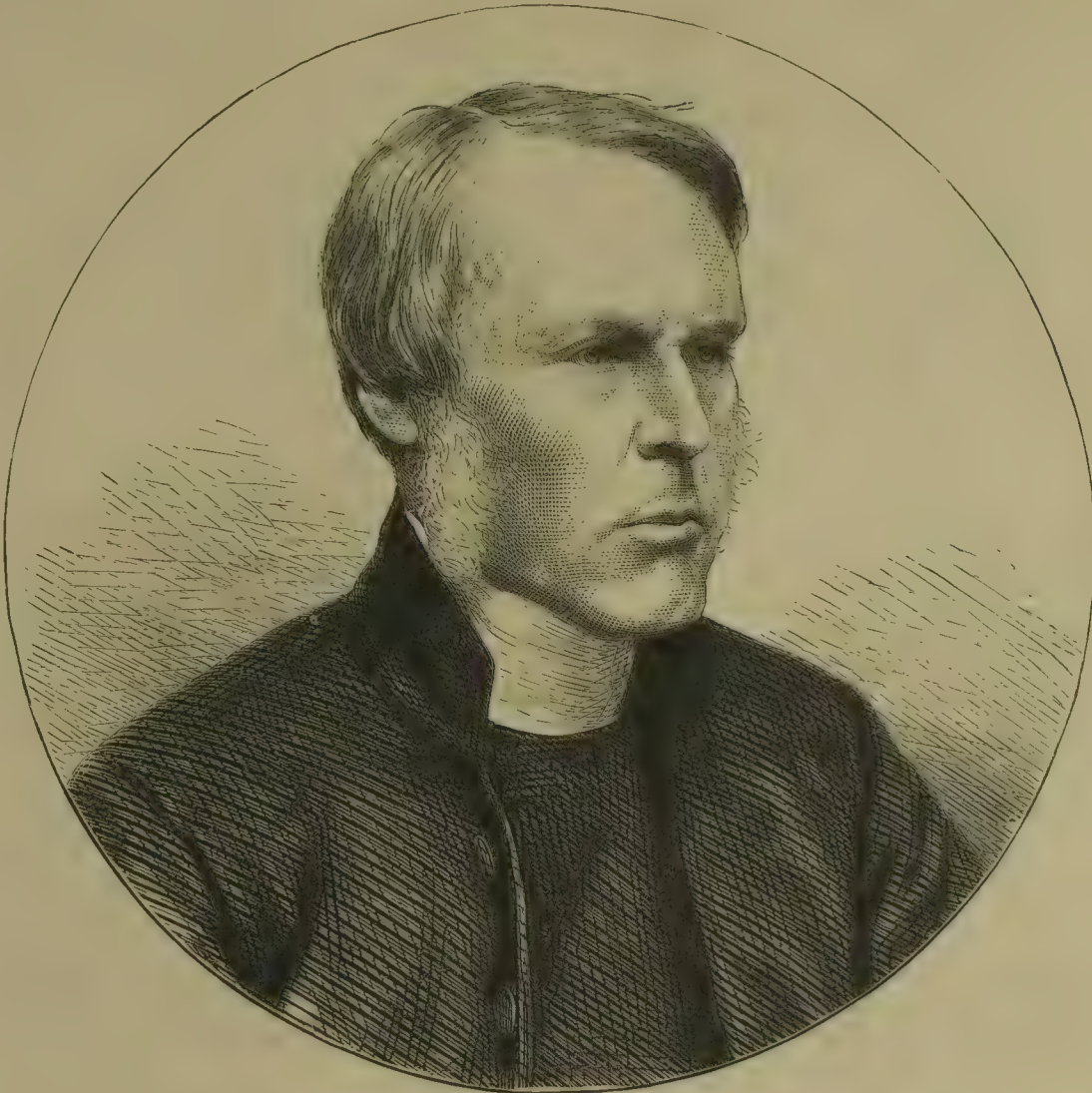
"The Sinfulness of Little Sins," and of many published Episcopal charges and sermons. He was a widower, Mrs. Jackson having died eleven years ago.

GERMAN ANNEXATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The western coast of South Africa, on the Atlantic Ocean shore, north of the Gariep or Orange River, which is the boundary of the Cape Colony, has recently been annexed to the dominions of the German Empire, with the exception of Walvisch Bay, an outlying dependency of the British Colony four or five hundred miles beyond its frontier. Angra Pequena, which is situated halfway between the mouth of the Orange River and Walvisch Bay, had been purchased from

the native chiefs by Mr. Lüderitz, a merchant of Bremen, who wished to put his settlement under the protection of some European Government. Prince Bismarck, willing to consider the interests of German settlers on the coast of Africa, made inquiry of our own Government, and was informed, after some delay, that Angra Pequena did not belong to the Cape Colony, and that the region north of the Orange River was no part of the British dominions. The German Empire has now, therefore, formally taken possession, of the whole extent, seven hundred miles, of the African coast from the mouth of the Cunene River, which is generally taken to be the southern limit of the Portuguese possessions, to the boundary of the Cape Colony. It consists of a belt of shifting sandhills, which extend from ten to forty miles inland. From the Cunene for three hundred miles south there is no harbour known; and the whole coast is beaten by a surf which prevents landing. The only object of interest is a stone cross erected by Diaz on a prominent cape; this has looked out for 400 years on a scene as desert as it was when the brave Portuguese won his way down the coast to his great discovery. Walvisch Bay is the best port on the coast. It was annexed by the Imperial Government, at the instance of the Cape Government, in 1878, with a small surrounding territory of about ten miles radius; but even here the supply of water is scanty and bad, and the sand belt is a great bar to waggon transport. Farther south, about twenty miles, is Sandwich Harbour, where there is a good spring of water, but the communication with the interior is even worse than at Walvisch Bay. There is, however, a trading and fishing establishment belonging to Cape merchants.

There are several roadsteads where landing can be effected between Sandwich Harbour and the Orange River, but none of any importance except Angra Pequena, which is a lagoon protected by an island. The mainland is barren beyond description, and destitute, or nearly so, of water. The interior of this forbidding coast line may be roughly divided into three parts; the Kalahari desert, stretching from the British territory in Griqualand west; the part of the country inhabited by the Namaqua Hottentots, and that part occupied by the Damaras. It is, however, quite unsuited for settlers from Europe, and is at present only inhabited by wandering Bushmen. The Cape Colony remains in possession of the small islets yielding valuable guano, annexed by the British Government in 1867, and leased to a merchant at Capetown.



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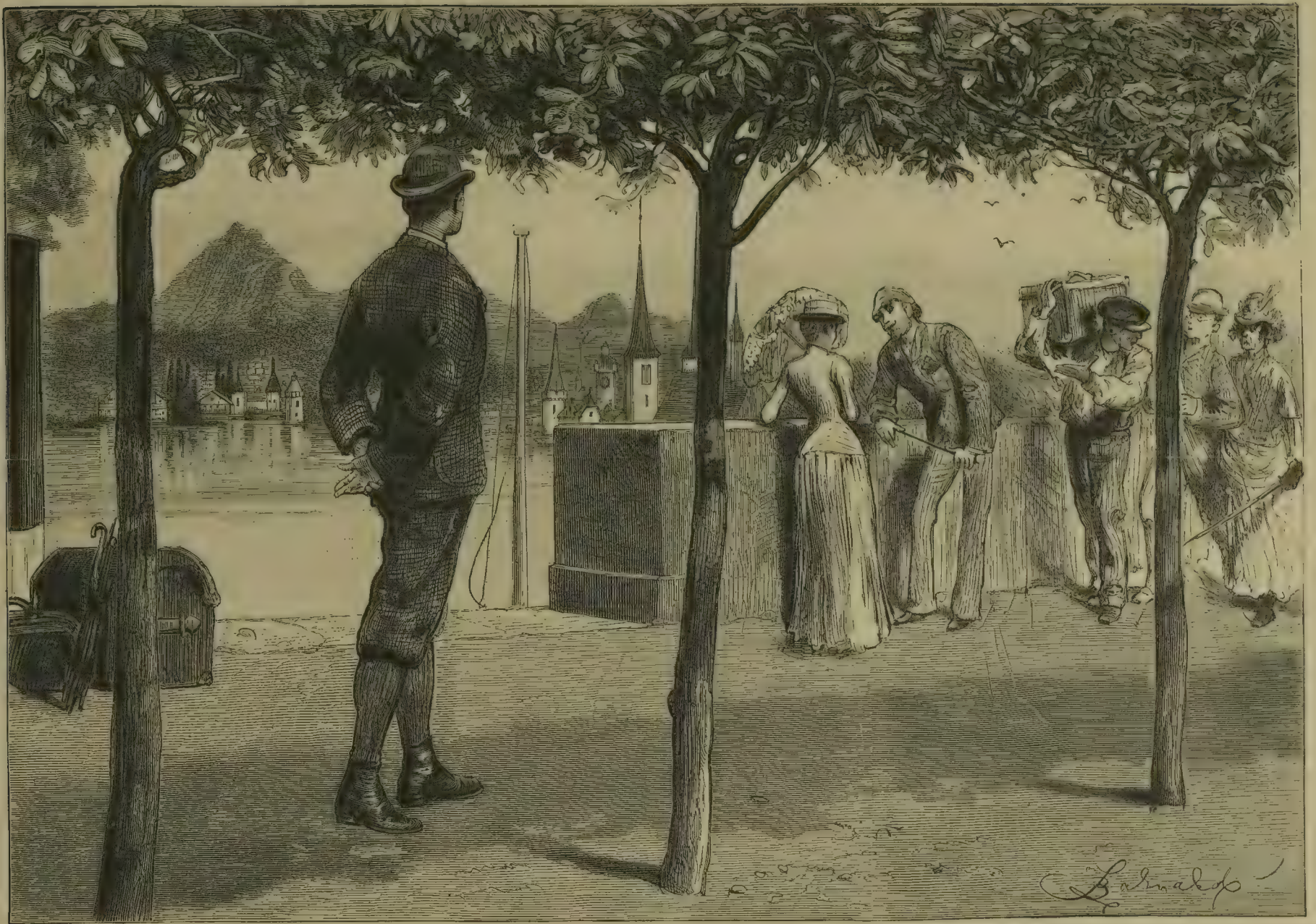
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BY W. E. NORRIS,

AUTHOR OF "MOLLE DE MERSAC," "MATRIMONY," "THIRLBY HALL," &C.

CHAPTER III.

AFTER DINNER.

As it turned out, there was no need for the ceremony which Vidal had made up his mind to solicit. When the table-d'hôte was at an end, the greater part of the assemblage, including those five members of it with whom we have to do, trooped out to the colonnade in front of the hotel to listen to the band; and so Vidal presently found himself seated beside Miss Irvine, who at once addressed him: What she said is hardly worth recording. The range of subjects upon which it is possible to open conversation with a total stranger does not afford much scope for originality, nor was Miss Irvine ambitious of achieving small effects. But Vidal was as much delighted with her natural ease of manner as with the soft contralto tones of her voice. For the present, he was quite content to exchange commonplaces with her, to establish the fact that she and he sympathised upon a variety of unimportant points, and to leave the question of a possible closer relation between them to the dim future. Nevertheless, his interest in his companion had so far deepened at the expiration of a quarter of an hour that it was with some considerable inward anxiety that he asked her whether she would be likely to remain a few days at Lucerne.

Mrs. Irvine, who had arrived at a hiatus in her colloquy with Heriot, answered the question. "Well, now we must really talk this over," she said, bending forward, with her elbows on her knees. "We ought to do the place properly, now that we are here. Let me see—there's the Lion, and the bridge with the Dance of Death, and the organ at the Cathedral: a few hours would exhaust the town, I should say. But then, the Rigi railway—and perhaps Pilatus—and oughtn't we to go round the lake in a steamer? What do you think, Clare? Is it worth while to stay a day or two?"

"I don't think I care very much, one way or the other," answered Miss Irvine, rather disappointingly, after a brief consideration of the matter.

"It would be a positive sin to leave the place without having been round the lake," struck in Vidal, eagerly. "You ought to devote three days, at the very least, to Lucerne. Could we not make up a party and see what there is to be seen? For my part, I should never forgive myself if I went away without having studied the Rigi railway. Now, don't you agree with me, Heriot?"

"I am afraid," said Heriot, "that I am rather inclined to agree with Miss Irvine; I don't care much, one way or the other. Still, I am quite ready to do what everybody else wishes."

Neither his words nor his tone were quite as amiable as usual, and Vidal wondered why. If Heriot had not been Heriot, it would almost have looked as though the green-eyed monster were at work. But, for more reasons than one, that surmise was inadmissible, and presently it seemed to strike the last speaker that he had been wanting in cordiality, for he added briskly, "Of course I should enjoy having a day or two with you, Adrian; and though I have seen the Lake of Lucerne before, other people haven't. I suppose there is no need for you to hurry home, is there, Mrs. Irvine?"

"Well, no doubt they would be able to get on without me for a few days longer," replied that lady, making the admission a trifle unwillingly. "There are heaps of things that I must see about as soon as I get back; but after all, two days is only forty-eight hours—or indeed one may say only about sixteen, making deductions for sleeping and eating. Suppose we put it to the vote. Mr. Vidal is in favour of our remaining; Clare and Mr. Heriot are indifferent; so that unless I vote with the ayes we shall get no decision. Very well, then we will consider the motion carried."

It did not appear to have occurred to anybody to inquire the opinion of Mr. Irvine, who had drifted away aimlessly into the darkness some time before, and had not reappeared. In a few minutes the ladies withdrew, and no sooner were they out of ear-shot than Vidal broke forth into impetuous praises of Miss Irvine's beauty.

"My dear Heriot, why didn't you mention her when you were talking about them before dinner? She is far and away the most exquisite creature I ever beheld!"

"Yes, she is a beautiful girl," said Heriot, rather drily.

"And as good as she is beautiful, I am sure."

"Oh, well, that would be saying a great deal, wouldn't it? To the best of my belief, she is neither better nor worse than the generality of young ladies who have not been very long out of the school-room. No; that is not quite true: she is better than the generality in some respects; for there is a freshness and innocence about her which"—

"Well?" asked Vidal; for Heriot had come to a full stop.

"Which, in the nature of things, can't last much longer—more's the pity. If I were you, Adrian, I wouldn't flirt with her. She doesn't understand the game yet, and why should you be the one to teach it to her?"

Now Vidal had a theory, founded upon experience, that the game of flirtation is one in which no woman, however young, stands in need of an instructor. He did not, however, even inwardly, seek to apply it in the present instance, but contented himself with an energetic disclaimer of the intention attributed to him.

"Surely," he exclaimed, "I may be permitted to admire respectfully what no man with eyes in his head could help admiring! And really I don't know why you should take it for granted that Miss Irvine would condescend to flirt with me, if I wished her to do so. But I don't wish anything of the kind."

Heriot smiled. He was quite conscious of the absurdity of his appeal, but he had not found himself able to resist making it. "How long are you going to be in Switzerland?" he asked, with an abrupt change of subject.

"Well, I thought about a month; but I may stay longer, if I find solitude conducive to work. You see, Heriot, I don't quite know yet whether it is in me to write a good novel, and I want to make sure and to give myself every chance. I didn't do my utmost with that last book; I doubt whether I should do my utmost with this one if I were in London, liable to constant interruptions. It is true that the brain is apt to grow sluggish when one has no company to keep one alive; but

whether that disadvantage isn't partly compensated for by"

"I beg your pardon," broke in a deprecating voice; "but can you tell me whether this is the principal inn of the place? I have lost my way, and cannot at this moment recall the name of my hotel. The Soldierhof—or Shoulderhof—or"—

"Try Schweizerhof," suggested Heriot. "Your instinct has led you to the right place, Mr. Irvine; and I shall be delighted to show you the way up to your room."

Perhaps he was not altogether sorry to escape the end of a dissertation to which not even the most devoted of friends could be expected to listen without some degree of boredom.

CHAPTER IV.

MISS IRVINE.

When Vidal woke on the following morning the sunshine was streaming into his room. Lucerne had been up and about for hours. The church bells were ringing; the steamers were blowing their hoarse whistles; from the quay without came guttural shouts, and from the corridors within the tramp of departing travellers and the banging of heavy trunks. But Vidal no longer anathematised this unending turmoil. On the contrary, so completely was this young man's judgment at the mercy of a mood that he actually found something cheerful and exhilarating in the signs of surrounding life and movement that were thus borne to him; and so far from stigmatising his fellow-tourists as "vile," would, upon the slightest provocation, have been quite willing to shake hands with them all round.

He got up and threw open his window. The deep blue lake was like a mirror in some places, and flecked with passing breezes in others; nearer to the shore every wavelet was a flashing diamond; the sky overhead was unclouded; but up the sides of the distant mountains light mists were curling and vanishing. Evidently there was going to be glorious weather, and Vidal, being in such good humour, determined that, as a reward for having worked so hard of late, he should have two whole days of idleness and enjoyment—or, upon Mrs. Irvine's calculation, sixteen hours, making deductions for food and sleep. Perhaps, even, it would not be necessary to subtract so long a time; since meals are not generally eaten in solitude, and many people like to sit up late when the nights are fine and the moon at the full.

All this only shows with what alarming rapidity a susceptible man will jump to conclusions; for assuredly it was neither by himself, nor with Heriot, nor even with Mrs. Irvine, that our young friend looked forward to contemplating the moon. He dressed after a leisurely, dawdling fashion, pausing every now and again to lean out of the window and look down upon the clipped horse-chestnut alley beneath, and upon the passers-by. And so it befell that, during one of these pauses, he became aware of a lady seated upon the low wall beside the lake. This lady wore a dress of white serge, and was sitting sideways, in such a manner as to display one of the neatest boots that ever gladdened the eyes of an appreciative spectator.

Unfortunately, she carried a large sunshade, which concealed the upper part of her person: but, although Vidal had never seen the dress before in his life, and could not have sworn to the boot, he felt no doubt at all as to the identity of the wearer. He remained watching her patiently until a change of posture caused her to raise her sunshade for a moment, and revealed the head of Miss Irvine, surmounted by one of those straw sailor hats which are becoming even to plain women, and, when worn by pretty ones, are simply irresistible.

After that glimpse, there was clearly only one thing to be done. Vidal performed the remainder of his toilet with the utmost dispatch, and was upon the point of running down stairs and crossing the road when he was arrested by a most unpleasing spectacle. Taking a last glance out of the window, he perceived that Miss Irvine had altered her position. She now had her back turned towards him, and was leaning over the wall, while beside her, in a similar attitude, was a tall individual, whose get-up, as far as could be discerned, was that of a modern young Englishman of fashion.

"So much for childlike innocence and ignorance of the wicked ways of men!" was Vidal's hasty and unjust comment upon what he saw. "I might have known that young ladies don't get up at eight o'clock in the morning for nothing."

So he threw himself down in his arm-chair, and decided that he wouldn't take a holiday, after all. What!—make one of a party to circumnavigate that weary lake and talk to a tedious old woman, while the daughter was amusing herself with her long-legged admirer? Hardly! No; he would go for a long walk into the country all by himself, and cease to trouble his head about people whom he was most unlikely ever to meet again. But it was not in Vidal's nature to sit and sulk in a corner long, and after a time he began to see that he was behaving very foolishly. Was it to be supposed that Miss Irvine could have reached her present age (she looked about twenty) without having had a single admirer? And because she allowed her admirers to speak to her, did it follow that she reciprocated their admiration or made appointments with them? Again, why should not the gentleman with the long legs be her brother or her cousin? Finally, what the deuce did it matter to him—Vidal—who or what the fellow might be?

Having reached the conclusion that it didn't matter in the least, he went down stairs and sauntered across the road to the horse-chestnut alley, beneath which Miss Irvine and the unknown were still standing. Of course it would never do to interrupt their conversation; but Vidal thought he would just walk slowly past, and she could see him or not, as she pleased.

He duly executed this manoeuvre, with the result that Miss Irvine not only saw him, but was evidently pleased into the bargain. She smiled, nodded, and when the young man made as though he would have passed on, stopped him with a gesture.

"Are you taking an early constitutional?" she asked. It struck Vidal that she was rather anxious for the company of a third person.

Her interlocutor, it appeared, did not share this anxiety. "Well, good-bye, Miss Irvine," he said. "I hope we may meet in England before long; and if not—well, perhaps you will let me hear from you."

He was a broad-shouldered, fresh-complexioned man of five or six and thirty, with a loud, but not disagreeable voice. Miss Irvine shook hands with him, but made no audible reply, and he strode over to the hotel without bestowing a glance upon the new-comer, who, on the other hand, had carefully taken stock of him.

"Is it not a perfect morning?" Miss Irvine began. "Have you breakfasted yet?—and are you going to do anything particular to-day? My mother has gone off to inspect the bridges; but she told me that if I saw you or Mr. Heriot, I was to let you know that we think of starting at twelve o'clock to make the tour of the lake. She hoped you might be inclined to come with us."

There was a certain hurry and nervousness in the girl's manner which Vidal did not fail to notice; but he had been too much pleased at hearing of the stranger's imminent departure for England to care whether he was or was not a suitor for Miss Irvine's hand.

"I should enjoy it of all things," he answered, heartily; "and I am sure Heriot will like to come." He added, with a disingenuousness of which he ought to have been ashamed: "The face of your friend who was here just now seems to be familiar to me—and yet I am not sure. His name isn't—isn't Parker, is it?"

"No," answered Miss Irvine, calmly; "his name isn't Parker." She had raised her eyes, with just the faintest shade of surprise in them, to those of her questioner. She did not exhibit any of the embarrassment which he had half expected, and he felt that it was he who was looking rather foolish.

"Oh!" he murmured, confusedly; "I—I thought perhaps it was."

"He is a Mr. Wilbraham, whom we met last winter," Miss Irvine said. "Do you know him?"

"No; I must have been mistaken. One person is so like another."

"So papa always says; and perhaps, now that you mention it, Mr. Wilbraham's is rather a common type of face. Would you care to walk as far as the bridge with me? I think I had better go and find my mother."

Vidal made use of no conventional figure of speech when he replied that he should be delighted. Nothing, indeed, could have been more delightful to him than Miss Irvine's society; and the matter-of-course way in which she offered it convinced him that his first impression of her had been correct, and that her beauty was equalled only by her simplicity.

"I am so glad that we are going to stay a day or two here," she said, after they had proceeded a few yards on their way. "I suppose we should have been starting now, if we had made up our minds to go straight home. How horrid it would have been!"

"You said last night that you didn't care whether you stayed or not," remarked Vidal.

She laughed. "Well—I couldn't tell that it was going to be such a fine day. Besides, all sorts of things may happen to prevent one from enjoying an excursion. Tiresome people may turn up, for instance; and there is no possibility of escape from them on board a steamer."

This was most satisfactory. "Tiresome people" obviously meant Mr. Wilbraham; and since it seemed to be implied that he had turned up unexpectedly, there was no occasion to harbour any further feeling of malice against the poor man. Vidal's spirits, which had hitherto been a trifle depressed, now fully recovered their tone; and if his companion did not find him clever and amusing, she must have been singularly insensible to qualities which had made this fortunate fellow a general favourite, from his boyhood up.

So these two passed on through sunlight and shade till they reached the old covered bridge, where Mrs. Irvine, with "Murray" in her hands and her chin in the air, was laboriously examining the quaint triangular paintings overhead, and endeavouring to decipher the crabbed German characters of the legend which each scene bore, inscribed beneath it.

"Oh, here you are at last, Clare!" she exclaimed. "And

you have brought Mr. Vidal with you, which is such a comfort, because I am sure he understands German better than I do. Now, Mr. Vidal, will you explain this to me? It is most interesting, and Murray gives one no sort of help. 'Scenes relating to the history of the town,' he says, or something of that kind. Just enough to excite one's curiosity without gratifying it, you know."

"Well, Mrs. Irvine," answered Vidal, with great presence of mind, "the fact is that some of the subjects are not quite—that is, it is better not to inquire into them too closely."

"Good gracious me, you don't say so!" exclaimed the good lady. "I should never have supposed that from the look of them, Clare, we had better seek out your father and keep him until the boat starts, or he will be sure to wander off somewhere and lose himself. Never mind the pictures: they have no artistic merit—not a bit worth looking at."

With that she bustled away, carrying off her daughter, who, indeed, had not been looking at the pictures, but at the rushing blue-green waters of the Reuss beneath; and so Vidal got home to breakfast.

The prospect of spending six or seven consecutive hours on board a lake steamer in company which demands a more or less incessant flow of conversation is one from which the generality of mankind may well shrink appalled. Silence is the prerogative of intimacy; to acquaintances of recent date you are bound to go on talking; and unless you are blessed with an exceptionally fertile brain, the result is but too certain. Economise your stock of subjects as you may, it must needs run dry at last; you search in vain for fresh ones; then a numbing sense of lassitude steals over you, and finally comes the inevitable moment when Nature asserts herself, and you yawn undisguisedly in the face of your neighbour, whose jaws fly open in ready sympathy. But there are certain persons who are strangers to such dismal experiences, and Adrian Vidal was one of them. Solitude often bored him; society scarcely ever. He took a real interest, not only in humanity at large, but in almost every individual whom he encountered; whence, no doubt, arose his great popularity. Like Abou ben Adhem, he might have cried, "Write me as one who loves his fellow-men," and the just system of reciprocity which prevails in all human affairs caused him to be beloved by them in return.

Therefore, neither he nor the lady to whom he devoted himself through the greater part of that spring day found the time long or wished for a change of partners. Miss Irvine, it is true, was not very difficult to get on with; for she was predisposed in favour of the young author, to whom, shortly after the boat had left the quay, she began to speak of those literary ambitions which he might reasonably be supposed to cherish. She had not her mother's unflattering vagueness of impression as to Vidal's past achievements; she was well aware that he had as yet produced no book, charming or otherwise; but Heriot had shown her some of his articles, and these she had read with the reverence and admiration for printed matter which belongs to youth.

"Do you know," she said, "you are the first author I have ever met? I think, if I were a man, I would rather be an author than anything else."

"But it is not necessary to be a man in order to be an author," remarked Vidal, "and I am afraid, if the truth were known, most men are only authors—at least, novelists—because they can't be anything else."

"I don't think you can mean that," said Miss Irvine—and in fact it is probable that he did not. "You surely would not place Dickens or Thackeray below a successful doctor or lawyer?"

"No; but perhaps the rank and file of our calling are rather below the rank and file of others. At all events, that is the common opinion. We are a discredited class, because the immense appetite for fiction causes hundreds of novels to pay their way which have no business to pay their way. Novel-writing is like every other art: it looks so easy and it is so difficult! Only in other arts the failure is more apparent and more decisive; so that those who have mistaken their vocation find it out sooner."

"I suppose the great thing is to be very much in earnest over it," said the girl, thoughtfully.

"Exactly; that is the one indispensable condition. Art won't accept a divided allegiance. You must give yourself up to her wholly and entirely, or she will never allow you a chance of conquering her."

"Do you think art the only thing worth living for, then?"

Mr. Vidal was not prepared to go quite so far as that. He explained that he had been speaking only of a temporary self-surrender, and that he was well aware that life contained possibilities of happiness such as art could never bestow. But it would be hardly fair upon him to record any more of the sentiments to which he gave utterance upon this occasion. When a man is falling more and more deeply in love every minute, he must needs say things which would sound supremely ridiculous to an eavesdropper; and if Vidal was a little high-flown in his talk, it must be admitted that he met with a good deal of encouragement. Miss Irvine evidently did not find him ridiculous. She ignored his occasional lapses into sentimentality, but seemed willing to admit him to terms of confidential intimacy. She questioned him upon the subject of his family, and told him about her own home in Cornwall, and her six brothers, and the difficulty that there had been in providing that stalwart half-dozen with education and a start in life. "For we are not particularly well off," she added, simply.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Irvine harangued the patient Heriot; and Mr. Irvine dozed in the shade; and the steamer pursued its zigzag course, crossing and recrossing the lake, passing beneath wooded cliffs, and stopping at villages where cattle were taken on board or disembarked, and where the huge hotels and pensions were as yet untenanted; until at last Flüelen was reached, and Vidal and Miss Irvine exclaimed, "Already!" in one breath.

Flüelen does not offer many attractions to the casual visitor; but Vidal long preserved, and perhaps still preserves, a grateful memory of the place. For the hour which had to be spent there before the steamer started on its return voyage proved one of the pleasantest that had fallen to his lot in a life composed largely of pleasant hours. Mr. Irvine expressed his intention of drinking a cup of tea quietly at the inn; and his wife, after consulting Murray, found that she could keep him company without neglecting her duty. "If you want to walk about, Clare," she said, "I daresay Mr. Heriot or Mr. Vidal will be kind enough to look after you."

To this appeal Heriot did not see fit to make any response; and thus the conversation which had begun on board the steamer was continued with even less danger of interruption. By this time Vidal's subjugation was an accomplished fact, and he knew it and gloried in it. In Miss Irvine he saw, not merely a girl of singular beauty and charm of manner, but far more than that—nothing less, indeed, than the Ideal Woman. He recognised in her the embodiment of all the virtues which are supposed to be especially feminine—purity of mind, charity, sympathy with the afflicted, devotion to her family. It must be confessed that she obtained this recognition upon tolerably easy terms, and that Vidal was satisfied to draw inferences where people of more mature years might have demanded tangible proofs; but perhaps in this he did not

differ greatly from other lovers; nor was it very wonderful that such simple things as a few kind words spoken to a cripple, and some coppers bestowed upon a beggar at the church door should have saved him as a foot upon which to mould a Hercules. Moreover, as it happened, he was not very far wrong in his inductions, and if he could have made inquiries down in Cornwall he would have heard from many mouths a description of Clare Irvine enthusiastic enough to have fulfilled even his high expectations. That there might be nothing wanting in her, she had a touch of melancholy in her manner at times, and a dreamy look in her eyes, which seemed to suggest unsatisfied yearnings. It would not have been consonant with Vidal's conception of her that she should have been altogether happy, although he had not yet quite reached the length of picturing himself as the one thing lacking to give her life completeness.

After they had wandered through the streets of the little town into the country beyond, and when the bell of the steamer had warned them that it was time to retrace their steps, she asked Vidal to gather a handful of wild crocuses for her; whereupon he begged for one of the flowers for himself. "I should like to have some memento of to-day," he said.

The girl glanced at him for a moment with a grave and rather startled look, and then laughed, as if not wishing to make too much of a trifle. "Yes, it has been a very pleasant day," she answered; but did not give him the flower.

He was rather sorry that he had committed the indiscretion of asking for it when he perceived the effect produced by his request; for after that she became perceptibly less communicative and contrived so to arrange matters that he had to listen to Mrs. Irvine's descriptions of Roman society the whole way back to Lucerne. Disappointing as this was, Vidal submitted to his fate with resignation and good humour; and perhaps it was just as well for him that he did so. Talking him over later in the evening, with Heriot, Mrs. Irvine pronounced him to be one of the most delightful and intelligent young men she had ever met, adding that she had a very great mind to prolong their sojourn at Lucerne by another day, as he had entreated her to do.

Heriot looked a little doubtful, and said, "Well, if you think it would be wise"—but as Mrs. Irvine did not understand him, and as he hardly liked to be more explicit, the extra day was granted, and an excursion to the Lake of Zug added several more hours of sunshine and bliss to the credit side of Vidal's account with time.

But on the third day, unhappily, the sunshine vanished. The mountains were shrouded in woolly clouds; across the grey lake showers came sweeping at intervals, and only one of the party had the hardihood to assert that it would be worth while to go up the Rigi in such weather.

"You see," Vidal said, "it isn't for the sake of the mountain, which is a cockneyfied sort of place at the best of times; and the view—well, of course, there are people who admire a panoramic view, but I really don't think we need regret the loss of that very much. What I am sure that you would regret most deeply, Mrs. Irvine, would be to have missed seeing the railway. Gradients of one in four—just think of that!"

"Can't we sit still and revel in the thought of a gradient of one in four without getting wet through?" suggested Heriot.

"My dear fellow, it's one of those things that must be seen to be realised. Besides, the railway carriages are covered."

Mrs. Irvine showed signs of wavering. "The worst of it is that one is sure to meet such heaps of friends who have done it and who will pretend that it was the most exciting experience of their lives," she murmured.

"Exactly so," said Vidal; "and after all, the only alternative is to stay indoors all day. For my part, I shouldn't be at all surprised if it were to clear up in the afternoon."

His representations were strengthened by a timely break in the clouds, and also—somewhat unexpectedly—by Mr. Irvine, whose soul was thirsting after an illuminated missal which he had unearthed in a curiosity shop, and who wished to be removed from temptation. The consequence was that, although the weather became worse instead of improving, the strongest will carried the day, and five travellers in mackintoshes and waterproofs disembarked at Weggis that afternoon. All that Heriot had been able to obtain, by way of compromise, was that, since there could be nothing whatever to be gained by ascending to the top of the mountain, they should content themselves with going as far as Kaltbad and returning by the next train. Thus, he said, they might hope to accomplish their purpose with a minimum of misery.

As for Vidal, he saw no question of misery in the matter. It is true that he did not derive any particular satisfaction from standing under the dripping awning of the steamer, nor even from the curious sensation of being dragged in a railway carriage up an incline steeper than the steepest of high roads, but what he thought was that, when once they had reached their destination, Miss Irvine might perhaps be disposed to take a short walk, upon the chance of catching a glimpse of view through the clouds, and he insisted a great deal upon the probability that at a certain height the rain would be replaced by mist.

Both of these expectations were justified by the event. At Kaltbad, where there is a gigantic hotel, empty in the month of May, but crowded later in the season, nothing worse was encountered than a nipping cold air and a dense white fog; and when the three elders had grouped themselves round the stove, expressing their unalterable determination not to move thence until the train should come to take them down, it required but a very little exercise of diplomacy to carry out the remainder of the programme.

(To be continued.)

The steamer Duke of Buccleuch left Gravesend on the 1st inst. with 88 single men, 67 single women, and 101 families, making a total of 256 souls, equal to 230 statute adults.

The season of Christmas at the Brompton Hospital was commenced by a special Confirmation held by the Bishop of London in the chapel attached to the hospital. About twenty patients were presented to the Bishop by the Rev. J. Hughes-Owen, the Chaplain, and the scene was an impressive one. In the evening a charming performance of Christmas carols and other music appropriate to the season was given by Mr. Malcolm Lawson and a party of friends. The Christmas morning was ushered in by a number of the nurses perambulating the different galleries at six o'clock singing appropriate hymns. The galleries and wards in the two buildings had been tastefully decorated with evergreens, formed into wreaths and festoons. The chapel was also tastefully decorated by Mrs. Hughes-Owen and others. The evening of Christmas Day was passed by the patients with music, carols, songs, and games, Miss Abbott (lady superintendent), Dr. Waugh (medical officer), and all the other resident doctors being indefatigable in their exertions to promote the happiness of the invalids. On Tuesday evening there was a distribution of gifts to all the inmates from the Christmas-trees, provided by the Misses Heddy, assisted by a few friends. The trees were placed in the concert-room in the new building, which was crowded by the patients and nurses.

OBITUARY.

SIR ROBERT BRISCO, BART.

Sir Robert Brisco, third Baronet, of Crofton Hall, Cumberland, High Sheriff of that county in 1862, died on the 23rd ult., at his seat near Wigton, aged seventy-six. He was the eldest son of Sir Wastel Brisco, second Baronet, and succeeded to the title at his father's death, in 1862. He married, July 10, 1832, Annie Drewry, daughter of Mr. George Rimington, of Tyne Field House, and had by her, who died Aug. 14, 1875, six sons and four daughters. The eldest son, now Sir Musgrave Horton Brisco, fourth Baronet, was born Aug. 11, 1833, and married, in June, 1867, Mary Elizabeth, widow of Captain R. Newsham Pedder, 10th Hussars, and eldest daughter of Sir

W. H. Feilden, Bart., by whom he has issue.

FRANCES, LADY HASTINGS.
 Frances, Lady Hastings, died on the 30th ult., at her residence, Franklands, Sussex, in her fifty-fifth year. She was daughter of Mr. T. Cosham, and married, first, May 19, 1860, Jacob, Lord Hastings, of Melton Constable, Norfolk, who died in 1871; and secondly, Sept. 16, 1873, Major Meane, of Barnewood, Gloucestershire.

MR. HARTOPP.

Mr. Edward Bouchier Hartopp, of Dalby Hall, in the county of Leicester, died on the 31st ult., at 21, Thurloe-square. He was born Dec. 14, 1803, the elder son of Mr. Edward Hartopp, of Little Dalby, by Anna Eleanora, his wife, eldest daughter of Sir Bouchier Wrey, Bart., and was grandson of Mr. Edward Hartopp-Wigley, of Little Dalby, by the Hon. Juliana, his wife, daughter of George, Lord Carbery through which lady a coheirship to the Barony of Vaux descended to the Hartopps. Mr. E. B. Hartopp, who was educated at Eton and at Christ Church, Oxford, served as High Sheriff of Leicestershire in 1833, and sat in Parliament for the northern division of that county from 1859-68. He married 1834, Honoria, daughter of Major-General William Gent, by whom he leaves issue.

REV. DR. BLAKENEY.
The Rev. Richard Paul Blakeney, D.D., Vicar of Bridlington Rural Dean and Canon of York, died on the 31st ult., at his rectory-house, aged sixty-four. His family, originally of Norfolk, became settled in Ireland, and Dr. Blakeney graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, in the first class of the Divinity Tripos. He translated and published extracts from the "Moral Theology" of Alphonsus Liguori and other works the principal of which was "The History and Interpretation of the Book of Common Prayer."

We have also to record the deaths of—
Major-General Gibbs Rignaud, late 60th Royal Rifles, Hon. M.A. Magdalen College, suddenly, at Oxford, on the 1st inst. aged sixty-four.
Major-General Mortimer Robert Sandys Whitmore, formerly 7th Royal Fusiliers, son of the late General Sir George Whitmore, K.C.H., Colonel Commander, on the 30th ult.
Doris, Lady Behrens, wife of Sir Jacob Behrens, and daughter of Mr. Joseph Hohenemser, of Mannheim, on the 31st ult., at Springfield House, Bradford, aged sixty-five.
Mr. Alfred H. Bailey, the proprietor of *Bailey's Magazine*, a well-known sporting man of the old school, on the 31st ult., at his residence at South Hampstead, aged seventy-six.
The Ven. Thomas Fitzgerald French, Archdeacon of Killaloe and Rector of Castleconnell, third son of the late Mr. Savage French, of Cuskenny, county Cork, on the 30th ult. aged fifty-nine.
The Rev. William Cook, D.D., a well-known and esteemed minister of the Methodist New Connexion body, in his seventy-ninth year. He was author of "Christian Theology, Explained and Defended," "The Bible, its Trials and its Triumphs," and other works.

Captain Nicholas W. Patrick Brophy, accidentally drowned in Egypt. He served with the Black Watch in the Ashante Campaign of 1874 and in the Egyptian War of 1882, taking part in the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. We hope to give a Portrait of Captain Brophy.

Dr. Andrew Findlater, who had for many years been associated with the Messrs. Chambers, of Edinburgh, on the 1st inst., aged seventy-four. His name will be best known in connection with "Chambers's Encyclopedia," which he edited, and afterwards revised. He also published manuals of languages, physical geography, and astronomy. He received the degree of LL.D. from the University of Aberdeen in 1866.

LIFE-BOAT SERVICES IN 1881.

During the past twelve months, the services of the life-boat of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution resulted in the saving of 621 lives, the greater part of which must have perished had it not been for the promptness and daring of the brave crews of the life-boats. Had we space, we might give a description of the grand deeds of heroism performed by these sea heroes at these services, many of which entailed great suffering and exposure on the gallant fellows. One of the last life-boat services of the year was that performed by the Honourable Artillery Company boat, which was only stationed by the National Life-Boat Institution at Walton-on-the-Naze about two months since. She was launched, through a heavy surf, on the evening of Christmas Day, in reply to signals from the Sunk light-ship. She first proceeded to the light-vessel, a distance of ten miles, and ascertained the position of the wreck, which was found to be eight or nine miles away on the Long Sand. At daybreak, with some difficulty, the life-boat was veered under the ship's jib-boom, it not being possible to get nearer; and it was then discovered that the vessel was the Deiko Rickmers, of Bremerhaven, and that there were twenty-five persons on board. By means of a rope from the end of the jib-boom, they were all got into the boat, the captain being the last to leave. There were then forty men in the life-boat, and great risk was incurred in crossing the Long Sand, the sea being in a perfect ferment. Happily, however, the boat acted splendidly, passed safely through all dangers, and arrived at her station on the evening of Boxing Day, after an absence of twenty-five hours.

In addition to these invaluable services in saving life, not less than seventeen vessels were, by means of the life-boats, rescued in 1884 from being totally wrecked or were brought by them safely into harbour. Further, the life-boats were launched 142 times in reply to distress signals, but returned to shore, the crews having jeopardised their lives in vain, because the signals had been either made in error or help was not required. During the year the society also granted rewards for the rescue of 159 lives by means of shore-boats and fishing boats, so that the grand total of 780 lives has been saved in the last twelve months through its instrumentality, bringing up the number of lives saved since the foundation of the institution to 31,434. In order to carry on this great work and to maintain in efficiency their fleet of 284 boats, the committee make a strong appeal to the public for help, feeling assured that that appeal will not be made in vain.



Deck Plan.

THE BRITISH NAVY: H.M.S. AGAMEMNON,



SHORTENED LEAVE: "I'VE PLEDGED MY HEART TO POLL."

OLD MASTERS AT BURLINGTON HOUSE.

It is now close upon eighty years since the British Institution became the purchasers of Mr. Boydell's Shakespeare Gallery in Pall-mall, and inaugurated that series of exhibitions of pictures by old masters, which was subsequently taken up by the Royal Academy. The British Institution, which in a great measure owed its existence to Lord De Tabley, was originally founded on what was known as the "exclusive" principle, for the exhibition of painters resident within the United Kingdom; but this rule only applied to the Spring exhibitions—the later Summer display being formed of the works by old masters, both home and foreign, borrowed from those who were disposed to educate popular taste. In spite of the difficulties of transport in those days, and the still greater obstacles arising from the jealousy of the patrons of art, the summer exhibitions, as the catalogues show, were often very creditable; and, at any rate, it must be placed to their credit that they familiarised the public with works which would otherwise have remained unknown, and accustomed their owners to bear without murmuring the steady recurrence of appeals to their good-nature and liberality. Royal Academicians, from the commencement, figured in considerable force in the council of the British Institution; and it was therefore only natural that they should as a body feel some interest in keeping alive a custom which had received the cordial support of many of their predecessors. Since 1870, until quite recently, they have practically enjoyed a monopoly, and it must be admitted that they have exercised it with zeal and discretion. Of late years especially there has been a manifest desire on the part of Sir Frederick Leighton and his colleagues to keep up to the high standard first reached, and, if possible, to show each year an advance upon its predecessor. The display for 1885 quite bears out this view. The number of pictures is small—scarcely more than 250; but of these nearly every one deserves special notice, and of a character quite unsuited to the space at our disposal. Our readers must therefore be content with certain general ideas of the contents of the four rooms of Burlington House in which these treasures are assembled, and endeavour to find an opportunity of deciding for themselves the respective merits of individual works.

Where there is so much to be proud of and to be grateful for, it may seem ungracious to begin by finding fault. But the sooner our regret is expressed, the better. After the first stir of pleasure at the sight of the collection has passed away, it is impossible to put away altogether the sense that for a second time the feeling of jealousy of a rival exhibition has prompted the application for some of the pictures. Sir Coutts Lindsay made no secret of his wish to give the public as complete an idea of Gainsborough's work as was possible; and there is no reason to suppose that owners of Gainsboroughs would be less liberal towards Sir Coutts Lindsay than towards Sir Frederick Leighton. The ten or twelve Gainsboroughs at Burlington House would have sufficed to make the show at the Grosvenor Gallery absolutely unrivalled—for, with the exception of his Miss Linley, all his most important works would then have been grouped together. A similar manoeuvre last year divided the best from the second best works of Sir Joshua Reynolds, and prevented Sir Coutts Lindsay from carrying out to its utmost his good intentions. The managers of the Royal Academy Exhibition would have found but little difficulty in filling up the spaces occupied by Gainsborough's works, and the Grosvenor would have had, amongst others, probably the finest accessible works of that artist—the portraits of "Squire Hillard and His Wife" (195), which is the glory of the large Gallery at Burlington House.

As it is in this gallery that the most important works are displayed, we may as well commence with discussing its contents. Hogarth's "Southwark Fair" (144), lent by the trustees of the Duke of Newcastle, shows with marvellous realism the boisterous amusements of our forefathers. On the raised stage a play is being acted before an audience, whose habits are depicted with lifelike fidelity, and their follies exposed with keen humour. Although it is eminently a story with a moral drawn from low life, there is nothing vulgar, either in the conception or treatment of the scene—as too often is the case when Dutch artists deal with the pastimes of the people. Next came four of the works from Blenheim, of which the world has heard so much during the past year. Two by Rubens—"Venus and Adonis" (146) and "The Departure from Sodom" (148)—of which we need not regret the loss to our National Gallery. But this cannot be said of the other two. The portrait of "Anne of Austria" (147), in a low black dress against green curtains, is a noble work, but far outshone by the group of "The Duchess of Buckingham and Her Children" (145), by Van Dyck. Like her real or supposed rival, Anne of Austria, the Duchess is painted in a black dress seated; her two sons are standing beside her, also in dark dresses, and on the right is her daughter, in a white satin dress, holding a flower in her hand. At the opposite end of the room is Lord Lothian's portrait of "Charles I.," by the same artist (183), advancing on horseback through an archway, which, festooned with curtains, forms a setting to the noble picture. The spirit and construction of the picture are alike unimpeachable, but the colour is somewhat slaty and poor. Before reaching this, however, we pass a charming "Portrait of a Lady" (153) by Bernard Van Orley, in a black dress and fur cloak and close-fitting black cap; a work which on the present occasion offers

greater interest than usual, since it permits a comparison of his work with that of his contemporary, Mabuse, whose chef-d'œuvre, "The Adoration of the Magi" (230), in the adjoining room, is one of the chief attractions of the year. The large canvas by Murillo, "The Virgin and Child in Glory" (164), is somewhat less ecstatic than many of the numerous replicas which this artist reproduced with such facility: the Virgin's robe—of deep crimson, with a blue mantle—is painted with the dexterity of a master-hand; but there is little, even of Spanish mysticism, in her face. A far more striking example of the school is Zurbaran's "Monk" (162), a full-length figure, of great dignity, with a face full of the struggles it had gone through. "The Holy Family," by Andrea del Sarto (171), will attract everyone by its exquisite truth and reality. The Child is clinging passionately to the Mother's neck, whilst her deep and straining eyes seem to foresee the sorrows which await Him. The picture is smaller than one is accustomed to in Andrea's work; and it is finished with all the care he could bestow when not harassed by household cares and disappointed hopes. We cannot help grudging the National Gallery of Ireland the possession of two very remarkable portraits—one by Hans Asher (174), the other by Wolfgang Hauber (175), two little-known German artists of the early part of the sixteenth century. At the same time, the keeper of the gallery, Mr. Doyle, must be congratulated on obtaining, with the slender grant at his disposal, such rare gems. The full-length figure of "St. Roch" (176), by Francia, is a very interesting specimen of this master's work, the landscape being scarcely less carefully treated than the saint in his monk's robe, and with his pilgrim's staff. The portraits of "Queen Mary" (178), by Sir Antonio More, and of "Lady Jane Grey" (182), by Lucca Penni, might have been intended for companion pictures—the size and pose being about identical. Whatever our sympathies may be, it must be admitted that the crowned Queen was more successful in her painter than her uncrowned rival. Two portraits by unknown (Italian) masters, lent by Mr. William Graham—one, that of a Pope (156), and the other that of a Choir-Master (180)—deserve notice; and Mr. Aug. Saville's "Head of a Man," by Velasquez (181), is a very excellent instance of that great master's method. The villainous and not really powerful face of "The Duke of Alva" (185), by Sir Antonio More, will strengthen most people in their belief in Mr. Motley's character of this savage Governor of the Netherlands; and, by the aid of the grandeur and power of Vandyck's rendering of the Earl of Strafford (188), it is easy to understand the feeling of how true a friend and how dangerous an enemy a man with such a face must have been. Passing by the two remarkable works of Lucas de Heere, the Duke (184) and the Duchess (187) of Norfolk—which seem to have been once more brought together, after a long separation—we come to the side of room where English art is alone represented. In the centre is Gainsborough's masterpiece, Squire Hillard and his wife—a young couple with ease and distinction in every movement—walking arm-in-arm. In the pose of the lady's head, Gainsborough shows to what heights he could rise by taking pains; and in this work, even down to the white Pomeranian dog, care and interest are shown. The picture, moreover, is hung just as Gainsborough would have wished (except, perhaps, for the neighbourhood of Turner's bright landscapes on either side), just three feet from the ground; and it was because he could not obtain this privilege at the Royal Academy that for fourteen years he abstained from exhibiting there. In those days the rule was that portraits—and especially full-length ones—should be hung at least nine feet above the ground, and consequently altogether out of the line in which the painter himself had ever seen or conceived his work. The two landscapes by Turner—"Old London Bridge" (194) and "The Burning of the Houses of Parliament" (197)—are fine examples of the artist at about the best period of his career. The wonderful analysis of light which both works display, the treatment of the water under two such different conditions, and the movement of the smoke and clouds, are "notes" of the Turnerian style strongly marked. Sir Joshua Reynolds' portrait of "John Musters, of Colwick" (189), shows the artist at his best, because he is perfectly simple, and has aimed at no startling effects of pose or colour. The landscape, in which is standing the plain country gentleman in brown coat, yellow waistcoat, and white stockings, is painted with more than Reynolds' usual love for such details; and even in the foreground he has made no small concessions to the lovers of realistic art in his attempts at flower painting. On the other hand, the "Portrait of Mrs. Musters" (198), as Hebe, is hard in feature and poor in colour—whilst the clouds and other accessories of the goddess are distinctly scamped. Romney's "Lady Brook" (192) is as delicate and charming as Hoppner's "Portrait of Mrs. Gibson" (193) as a wood-nymph is solid and unsentimental; whilst the examples of the works of two successive Presidents, Sir Benjamin West and Sir Thomas Lawrence (196), mark accurately the successive steps in the decay of English art.

Here we must break off, reserving for another occasion notice of the other galleries, of which the customary arrangement has been maintained. In the first are the works of the English school, of which Reynolds' "Penelope Boothby" will be regarded as the gem; in the second the Dutch school, with one Franz Hals, at least, of first-rate merit; whilst in the fourth the "Adoration of the Magi," from Castle Howard, carries off the undisputed palm.

H.M.S. AGAMEMNON.

This ship, which has been undergoing considerable alterations at Devonport Dockyard, and has been tried in experimental trips in the Bay of Biscay, is now ordered to be commissioned for active service, and is going to reinforce the British Naval Squadron on the China Station. The Agamemnon is a double-screw armour-plated turret-ship, constructed of iron, carrying four heavy guns in her two turrets; her tonnage capacity is 8510 tons, and her engines are of 6360-horse power. She is commanded by Captain Samuel Long, an officer who served in the old Agamemnon, wooden line-of-battle ship, in the Black Sea, and at the bombardment of the forts of Sebastopol, under Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons. The new Agamemnon, of which we give an illustration, is a very different sort of vessel; and, though her fighting power must be considerable, some doubts have been expressed of her fitness to encounter rough weather at sea. The oblique position of the two gun-turrets on deck, as indicated in the plan which accompanies our illustration, does not seem favourable to security of balance, and has been disapproved by professional critics.

SHORTENED LEAVE FOR SEAMEN.

Some excitement was caused at Portsmouth and Plymouth, and in other parts of the country, by an order from the Admiralty, on Saturday night, that all men belonging to the Channel Squadron, who were absent on leave, should return to their ships on Monday before half-past one in the afternoon. This notice was posted up on Sunday at many public places in the naval seaport towns, and telegrams were sent to call the men from every part of England and Scotland where they were known to have gone to visit their families and friends. Ten days' leave had been granted to a portion of the officers and seamen, dating from the Monday of last week, so that their expected holiday would have been continued till Thursday last. It was understood that the Channel Squadron was to be ready to proceed to sea not later than Friday, the Northumberland leaving Devonport on Tuesday for Portsmouth, where Vice-Admiral De Horsey, who has succeeded the Duke of Edinburgh in command of the squadron, would hoist his flag on board that ship instead of on board the Minotaur, which is to undergo extensive repairs. The two divisions were ordered to meet off the Eddystone on Friday, and will proceed thence to Arosa Bay, where they are to arrive on the 15th inst. They will proceed thence to Vigo, Madeira, and Gibraltar, remaining until further orders are received from England.

"Shortened leave" is an incident of the naval service which cannot fail to have a startling effect on domestic and social life in the neighbourhoods where any of our brave seamen have been spending their Christmas holidays; and the smart young fellow depicted by our Artist, who is earnestly conversing with an older man in a hurried farewell talk, may be imagined to have an important personal secret to communicate, touching the tender relations between himself and a certain "Poll," whose charms have found a vulnerable spot, not yet ironclad, in his susceptible "Heart of Oak." The gentle reader, of either sex, will not deny to him and her, since they are really betrothed, a considerable allowance of sympathy upon this occasion; and will regret the necessity of cutting off two or three days from the happy time which they might have spent together in "keeping company," before he mustered with his comrades on deck in Plymouth or Portsmouth harbour. But "duty" rhymes to "beauty" in the most popular songs of Dibdin, and in the feelings and conduct of every true British sailor; it is not the habit of Jack to repine at a separation, however sudden, even from the cherished object of his honest love, when he is summoned to go aloft in the performance of a gallant vocation, still justly held in honour by all classes of our countrymen. As for the young woman herself, she ought to be very proud of him, and to await his return from the next cruise, whether it be in peace or in war, trusting the pledge of constant affection that he has given her, and taking what consolation she may derive from the well-known verse:—

I said to our Poll, for, d'y'e see, she would cry,
When last we weighed anchor for sea—
What argues snivelling, and piping your eye?
Why, what a d—d fool you must be!
Can't you see the world's wide, and there's room for us both,
Me on sea, Poll, and you upon shore?
And if to Old Davy I go, friend Poll,
Why, you'll never hear of me more!

It is to be hoped that she will, like a sensible English lass, feel perfectly satisfied with this explanation of her prospects, and not send him from home with a burden of undue vexation and needless anxiety upon her account. But she may cry a little, for a day or two, after Jack goes, if she will then set about her own work in a good-humoured spirit, and keep a smile always ready for the sailor's return.

The revenue received during the year 1884 amounted to £85,509,883, being £4,525,639 less than the amount received during the year 1883. Of this decrease, £593,000 is in the Excise; £171,000 in stamps; £2,402,000 in income and property tax; and £1,707,962 miscellaneous. There is an increase of £400,000 in the receipts from the Post Office, and of £140,000 in those from the Customs.

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C. J. BOYD WALLIS, Esq., L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng., 23, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, London, W., writes, Nov. 21, 1884:—
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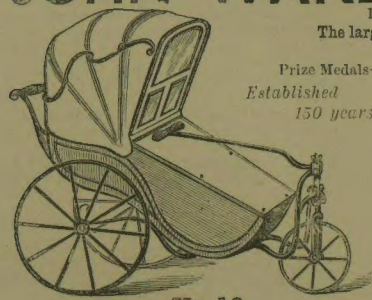
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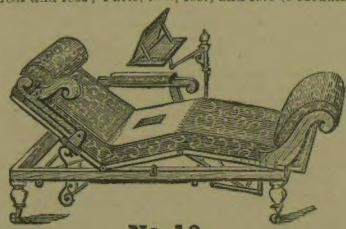
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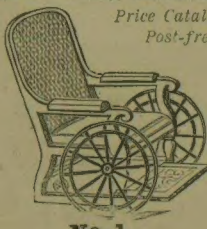
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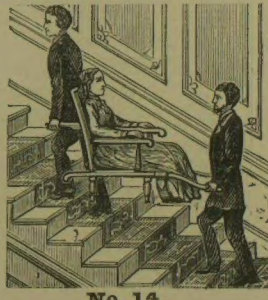
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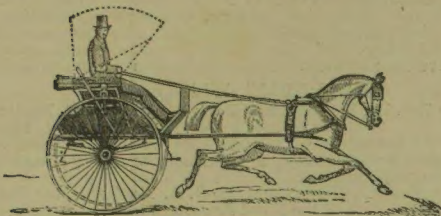
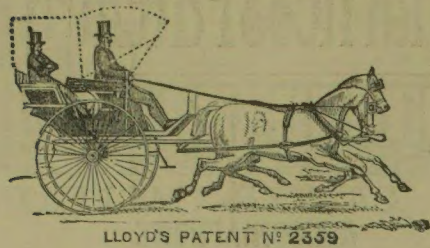
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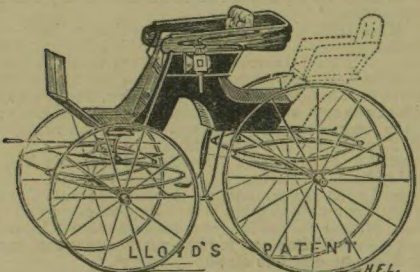
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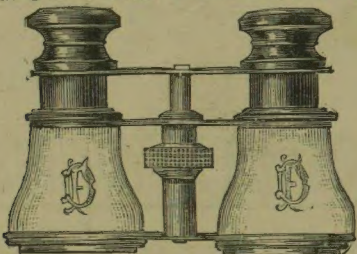
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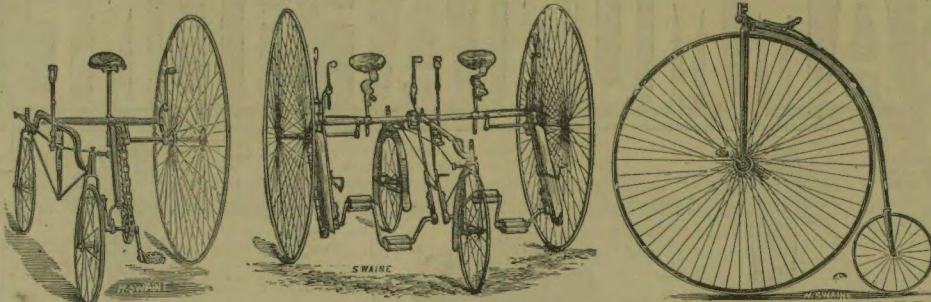
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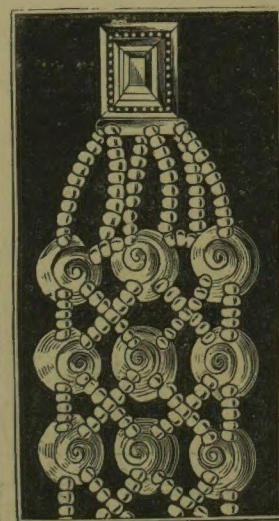
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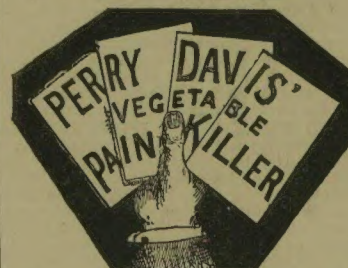
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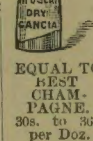
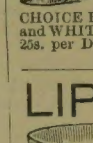
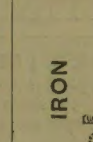
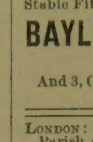
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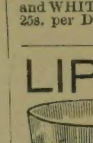
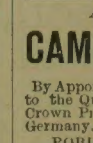
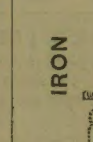
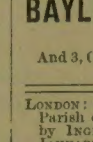
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